

DIGITAL EDITION

GUNSLINGER GIRL

STORY & ART BY
YU AIDA

Vol. **2**





SEVEN SEAS ENTERTAINMENT PRESENTS

GUNSLINGER GIRL

VOLUME 2

story and art by YU AIDA

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GUNSLINGER GIRL VOLUME 2

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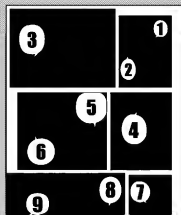
Ebook Edition: July 2017

10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

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READING DIRECTIONS

This book reads from *right to left*, Japanese style. If this is your first time reading manga, you start reading from the top right panel on each page and take it from there. If you get lost, just follow the numbered diagram here. It may seem backwards at



CAST OF CHARACTERS



HENRIETTA

The only survivor of a slaughtered family of six. Thanks to her "conditioning" when she was converted into a cyborg, she is blindly in love with her handler, Jose.



RICO

Former quadriplegic. Innocent and cheerful, even the most common everyday things bring her much joy. Her handler is Jean.



TRIELA

Smart and responsible, she is an "older sister" figure for the other cyborgs. She was defeated only once, when she faced the hitman "Pinocchio" in his Montalcino home.



CLAES

Triela's roommate. When her handler Raballo was killed, she became the Agency's "guinea pig" cyborg. All cyborg developments are first tested on her.



ANGELICA

The first prototype cyborg. She was the first to start displaying side effects to the cyborg conversion process, and has an acute dependency on the "drug" used. Her handler is Marco.



JOSE

Ex-military. Generally, he is very kind to Henrietta, but he is beginning to find himself disturbed at how much he unconsciously imposes his late sister's image onto her.



JEAN

Jose's older brother. Very serious-minded and business-like. He is the cyborg handlers' leader and field commander for Section 2 operations.



HILSHIRE

German. Former detective with Europol. He tries very hard to be kind to Triela, but has difficulty in figuring out what kind of distance there should be in their relationship.



MARCO

Ex-military special forces. When he was discharged due to an injury, he took up a job with the Agency. He has trouble dealing with feelings of helplessness and frustration as he watches Angelica's condition deteriorate day by day.



PINOCCHIO

A naturally gifted killer. He is guarding Franco and Franca on Cristiano's orders.



CRISTIANO

Conservative leader of the Milan Group, a part of Padania's Five Republics Faction. He raised Pinocchio.



FRANCO

Professional bomb-maker. Franca's partner.



FRANCA

Five Republics Faction terrorist. Following her own cause, she is a freelance activist and bomb-maker. Currently partnered with Franco.



PATRICIA

Marco's ex-fiancée. She works for a publishing company.



PRISCILLA

Agent for Section 2. Her main responsibilities center around data analysis.



LORENZO

Agent for Section 2. He serves as the lead for all regular agents and as an assistant to the cyborg handlers.



MONICA MARIA PETRIS

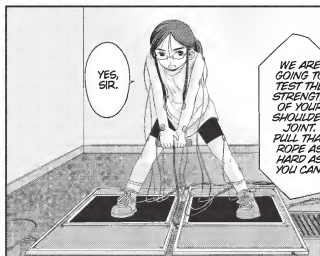
Section 2 chief. Formerly employed with the Ministry of State.



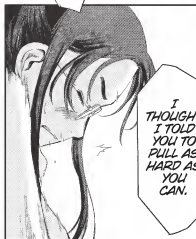
MONICA MARIA PETRIS

Director of both Section 1 and 2.

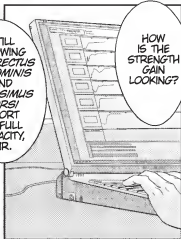


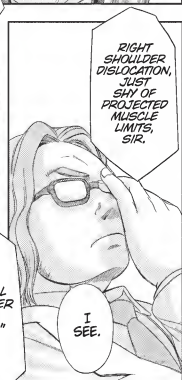
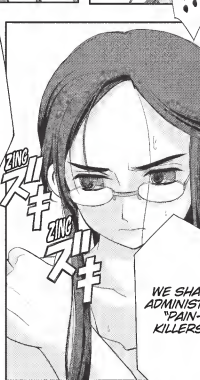
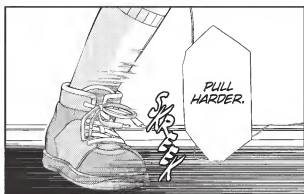


WE ARE GOING TO TEST THE STRENGTH OF YOUR SHOULDER JOINT. PULL THAT ROPE AS HARD AS YOU CAN.



STILL SHOWING HER RECTUS ABDOMINIS AND LATISSIMUS DORSI SHORT OF FULL CAPACITY, SIR.





The girl has a mechanical body. However, she is still an adolescent child.

GUNSLINGER GIRL.

ガン ス リ ン ガ ー ・ ガ ー ル



CHAPTER 6: A KITCHEN GARDEN



MY NEW
WORKPLACE
NEEDS
QUALIFIED
TEACHERS.



CAPTAIN
RABALLO.
IT HAS
BEEN
QUITE
SOME
TIME.



IT
SEEMS
YOU'RE
INVOLVED
NOW
WITH SOME
NEW, FISHY
AGENCY.

HIV.
AFTER I
PULLED OUT
OF THE
BATTALION,
I HEARD A
RUMOR.

JEAN.
YOU
KNOW I
RETIRED.
WHAT
DO YOU
WANT
NOW?



WE COULD
FACILITATE
YOUR
RETURN,
IF YOU
LIKE.



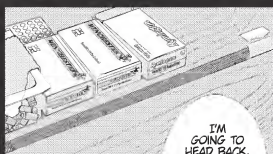
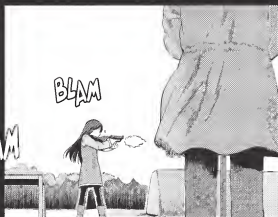
CONVENIENT
FOR YOUR
REVENGE.
YOU MEAN.
YOU'RE NOT
BEING PICKY,
ARE YOU?

IT IS
AN ORGA-
NIZATION
WELL-
SUITED
TO MY
PUR-
POSES.



THAT WAS
THE ONE
PLACE YOU
TRULY FELT
AT HOME,
YES?

DO YOU
WANT TO
RETURN
TO THE
CARABINIERI
SOMEDAY,
CAPTAIN?

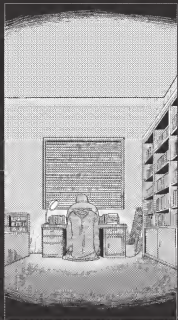








Fleda-Claes-Johansson 10 anni





UM...

DID YOU
SNEAK
OUT OF
YOUR
ROOM TO
COME
HERE?



SIGNORE
RABALLO...



WHAT
IS IT,
CLAES?



AH,
WELL....
GET IN
HERE AND
CLOSE
THAT
DOOR.



JEAN DID?
HE DIDN'T
SAY
ANYTHING
TO ME...



NO,
SIR.

SIGNORE
JEAN
TOLD ME
TO SEE
YOU ONCE
I HAD
TAKEN A
SHOWER.



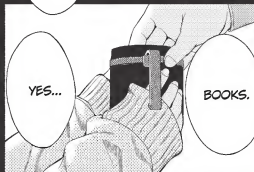
BUT
PEOPLE IN
OUR LINE
OF WORK
TEND TO
READ A
LOT.

YOU
MIGHT
NOT
THINK
SO AT
FIRST...



SO
MANY
WHAT?

THERE
ARE SO
MANY...



YES...

BOOKS.



WELL,
RIGHT
NOW...

I'M
READING A
BOOK ABOUT
VEGETABLES
THAT PEOPLE
COULD GROW
IN A KITCHEN
GARDEN.



GLYS
WITHOUT
A GOOD
EDUCATION
AND A HEALTHY
SENSE OF
CURIOSITY DON'T
MAKE GOOD
SOLDIERS.

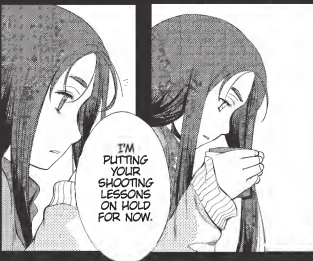


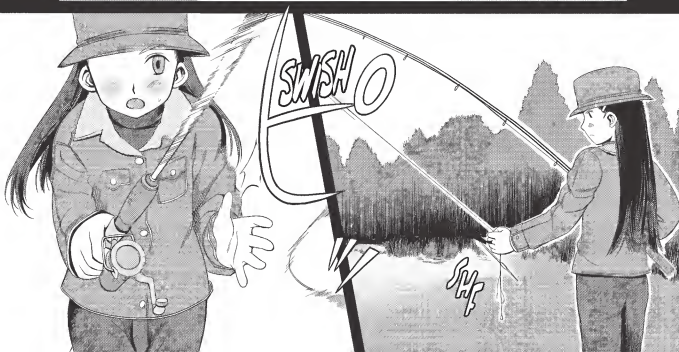
I FIGURE
IT WOULD BE
A HELP IF
WE'RE EVER
ATTACKED BY
VEGETABLE
ALIENS FROM
OUTER SPACE.



WHAT
KINDS
OF
BOOKS
DO YOU
READ?

ME...?



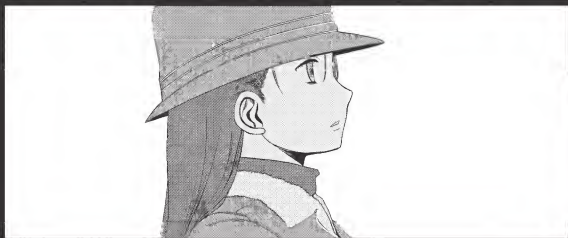
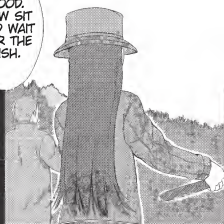


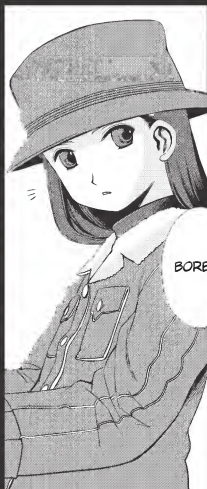


I
THREW
IT,
SIR...

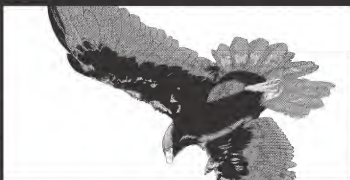


GOOD.
NOW SIT
AND WAIT
FOR THE
FISH.





BORED?



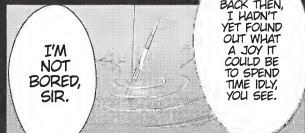
WONDERING,
ACTUALLY.
DESPITE
EVERYTHING,
SOMEONE
LIKE ME
CAN STILL
EXPERIENCE
THINGS LIKE
THIS.

I WAS
JUST
THINKING
...

THAT'S
ALL.



WHEN
I WAS
YOUNG,
GOING
FISHING
WITH MY
FATHER
WOULD
BORE ME
OUT OF MY
MIND.



I'M
NOT
BORED,
SIR.

BACK THEN,
I HADN'T
YET FOUND
OUT WHAT
A JOY IT
COULD BE
TO SPEND
TIME IDLY,
YOU SEE.



THE ONLY
THING I
DO HAVE
INTEREST IN
IS MY REIN-
STATEMENT
TO THE
CARABINIERI.

!!
TOG
?



DON'T
MISTAKE
ME.
I DID NOT
BRING
YOU HERE
FOR FUN.

THIS IS
PART OF
YOUR
TRAINING.
AND, TO BE
BLUNT, I
HAVE NO
INTEREST
IN YOU.



MAY
I ASK...
ABOUT
YOUR
LEG?



BEFORE
I LEFT THE
MILITARY,
THERE WAS
AN ACCIDENT.
FIREARM
JAMMED AND
BLEW UP. THE
EXPLOSION
TOOK OUT
MY LEG.



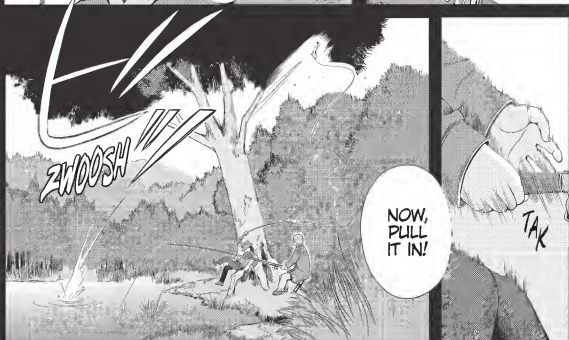
IF THAT
IS THE
CASE...

THEN UNTIL
YOUR
SUCCESSFUL
RETURN,
I WILL
BE YOUR
LEGS.



AND IN
RETURN,
THEY'LL
HELP GET
ME BACK
INTO THE
CARABINIERI.

THOUGHT
MY CAREER
WAS OVER.
BUT THEN
JEAN SHOWED
UP AND MADE
ME A DEAL.
WORK FOR
THE AGENCY
FOR THREE
YEARS...



LAKES IN
LOMBARDY,
IN VENETO,
IN
PIEDMONT,
AND MORE.

WE
WENT
FISHING
MANY
TIMES,
TO MANY
MORE LAKES.

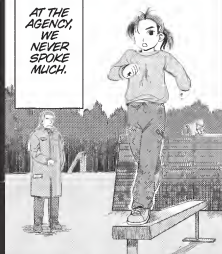
AFTER
THAT...



WE
PLAYED
OUR
ROLES AS
TEACHER
AND
STUDENT
FAITHFULLY,
SILENTLY.

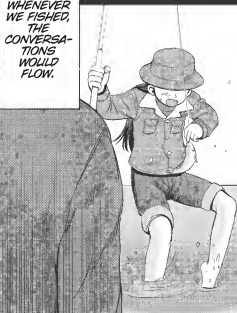
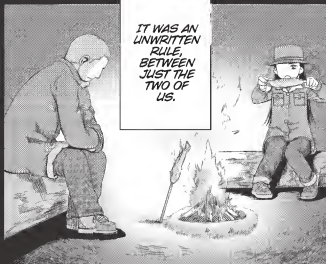


AT THE
AGENCY,
WE
NEVER
SPOKE
MUCH.



BUT
SOMEHOW,
WHENEVER
WE FISHED,
THE
CONVERSA-
TIONS WOULD
FLOW.

IT WAS AN
UNWRITTEN
RULE,
BETWEEN
JUST THE
TWO OF
US.





THEN YOU
AREN'T
READY FOR
REAL
WORK.
ARE WE
CLEAR?

NOW GO.
IF YOU CAN'T
MAKE THE
THUGS DOWN
THERE COME
AFTER YOU
BEFORE YOU
GET ON THE
SUBWAY
TRAIN...

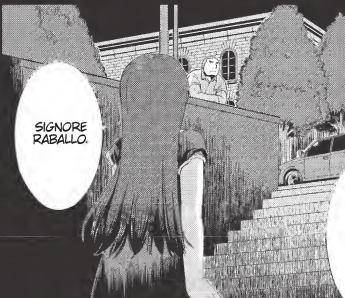


TODAY,
WE ARE
GOING TO
TRY SOME
FIELD
TRAINING.

DO NOT
DRAW YOUR
WEAPON
UNLESS IT
IS FOR
SELF-
DEFENSE,
UNDER-
STOOD?



YES,
SIR.
I'LL DO
MY
BEST.



SIGNORE
RABALLO.

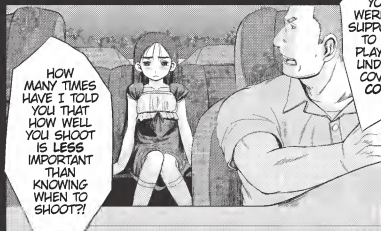


ALFONSO,
CLAES HAS
FIRED HER
WEAPON.

KEEP AN
EYE ON
THINGS,
AND MAKE
SURE IT
DOESN'T
GET OUT
OF HAND.



I'M
SORRY...



HOW
MANY TIMES
HAVE I TOLD
YOU THAT
HOW WELL
YOU SHOOT
IS LESS
IMPORTANT
THAN
KNOWING
WHEN TO
SHOOT?!

YOU
WEREN'T
SUPPOSED
TO BE
PLAYING
UNDER-
COVER
COP!

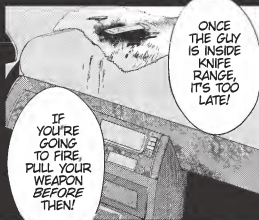


LITTLE
IDIOT!



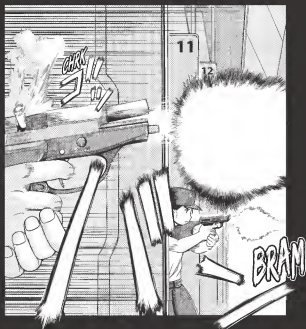
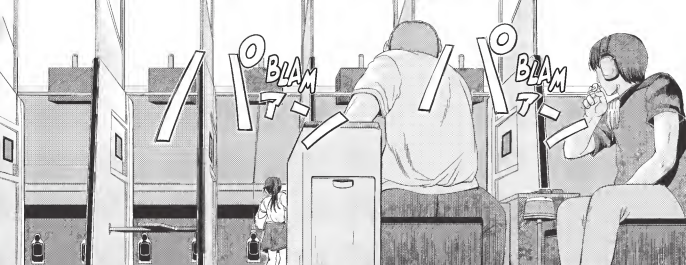
DON'T
HESITATE
NEXT
TIME,
UNDER-
STOOD?

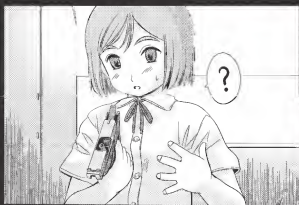
YES,
SIR.

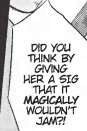


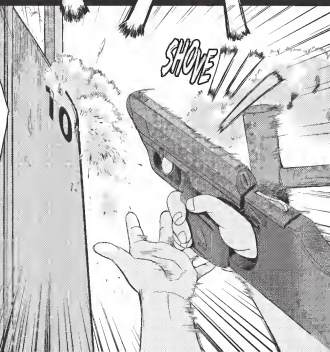
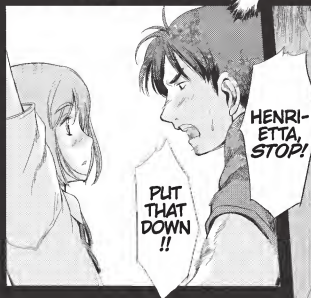
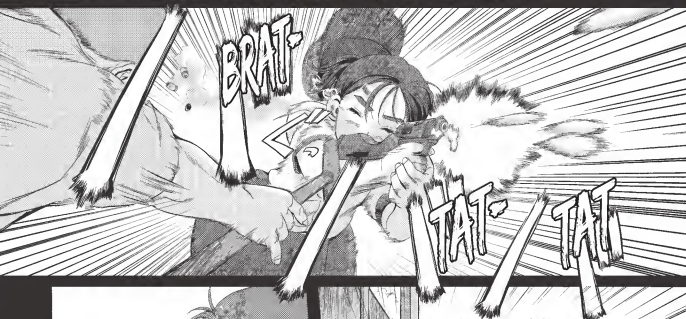
ONCE
THE GUY
IS INSIDE
KNIFE
RANGE,
IT'S TOO
LATE!

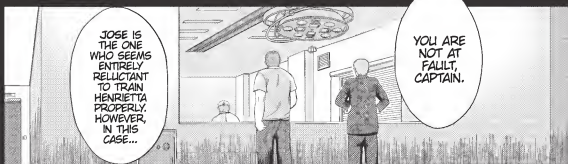
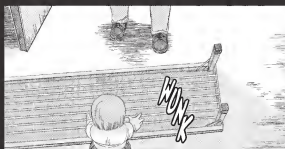
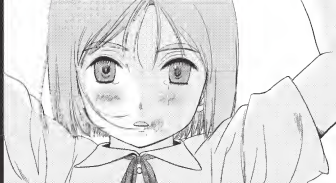
IF
YOU'RE
GOING
TO FIRE,
PULL YOUR
WEAPON
BEFORE
THEN!











JOSE IS THE ONE WHO SEEMS ENTIRELY RELUCTANT TO TRAIN HENRIETTA PROPERLY. HOWEVER, IN THIS CASE...

YOU ARE NOT AT FAULT, CAPTAIN.



BUT IT IS OBVIOUS THAT BOTH CYBORGS NEED TO HAVE SEVERAL REFLEXES MODIFIED.

YES, JOSE WILL UNDOUBTEDLY OBJECT...



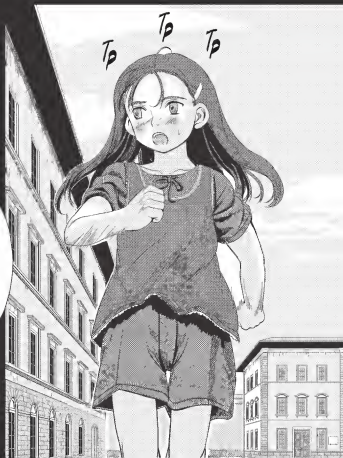
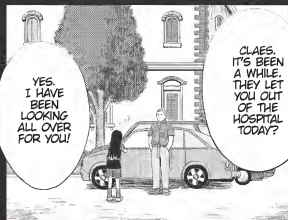
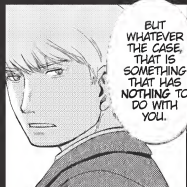
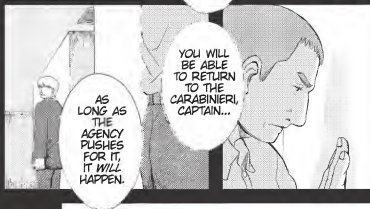
WE NOW KNOW THAT IT NEEDS YET FURTHER REVISION.

THE TRUE PROBLEM LIES WITH THE PROGRAM WRITTEN INTO THEM VIA THEIR "CONDITIONING."



YOU MEAN THEIR "CONDITIONING" CAN BE CHANGED?

"FURTHER REVISION" ...?





I'VE
STARTED
TO HAVE
SECOND
THOUGHTS
ABOUT
WHAT THE
AGENCY
DOES,
YOU SEE.

HM?

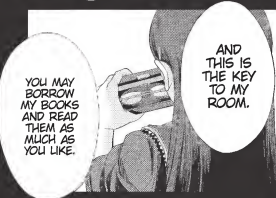


THAT?
DON'T
WORRY.

I'M JUST
GOING TO
VISIT AN
OLD FRIEND
OF MINE.
HE'S A
REPORTER.



I...
I HEARD
A RUMOR
THAT SAID
YOU WERE
THINKING
ABOUT
QUITTING
THE
AGENCY.



YOU MAY
BORROW
MY BOOKS
AND READ
THEM AS
MUCH AS
YOU LIKE.

AND
THIS IS
THE KEY
TO MY
ROOM.



THERE'S
SOME-
THING I
WANTED
TO GIVE
TO YOU.

AH, I
ALMOST
FORGOT
...

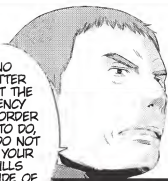


THANK
YOU.
BUT,
WHY?



HERE.
THESE
ARE THE
GLASSES
YOU
USED TO
WEAR.

HAD THE
LENSES
CHANGED,
THOUGH.
YOUR VISION
DOESN'T
NEED
CORRECTING
ANYMORE.



NO MATTER WHAT THE AGENCY MAY ORDER YOU TO DO, YOU DO NOT USE YOUR SKILLS OUTSIDE OF COMBAT.

LISTEN. A GUN'S TRIGGER IS SOMETHING YOU ONLY PULL ONCE YOU HAVE THOUGHT THE SITUATION ALL THE WAY THROUGH.



I'VE DONE MY BEST TO TRAIN YOU TO STAND ON YOUR OWN TWO FEET.

BUT LOOKING AT YOU NOWADAYS, I'M GETTING A LITTLE UNSURE.



NOW, WHILE YOU WEAR THESE GLASSES, I WANT YOU TO BE THE GENTLE AND QUIET CLAES.

THIS ISN'T SOME ORDER THAT CAN BE CHANGED WHENEVER. THIS IS A BLOOD OATH.

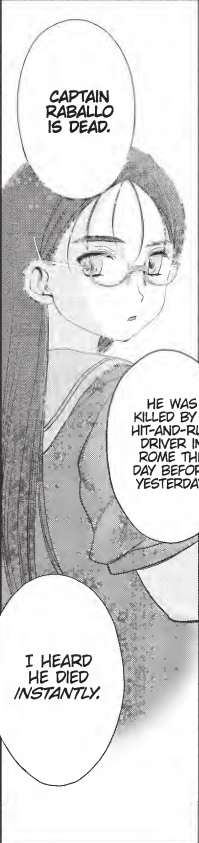


GOOD GIRL.



Hai capito?
UNDERSTOOD?

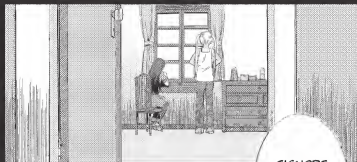
Si, ho capito.
YES, I UNDERSTAND.



CAPTAIN
RABALLO
IS DEAD.

HE WAS
KILLED BY A
HIT-AND-RUN
DRIVER IN
ROME THE
DAY BEFORE
YESTERDAY.

I HEARD
HE DIED
INSTANTLY.



SIGNORE
RABALLO
SURE IS
AWFULLY
LATE.



YES...



CLAES.



I WANT
YOU TO
LISTEN
CAREFULLY,
CLAES.

SIGNORE
JEAN.



I DO
HAVE A PROPOSI-
TION, THOUGH.

WHAT
IS IT?



ONCE SET,
THE PRO-
GRAMMING
FOR THEIR
MASTER IS
NOT EASILY
CHANGED.



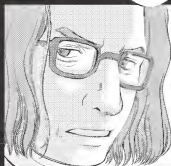
UNFORTU-
NATELY,
THIS ONE
IS NOW
USELESS...



ERASE HER
MEMORIES
OF WHAT
HAS HAPPENED,
AND SHE CAN
ONCE AGAIN
BE OF USE
TO THE
AGENCY.



CHANGE
CLAES'
"CONDI-
TIONING"
PARTIALLY.
SELEC-
TIVELY.

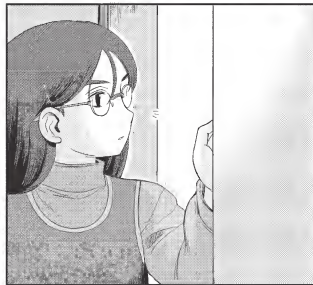


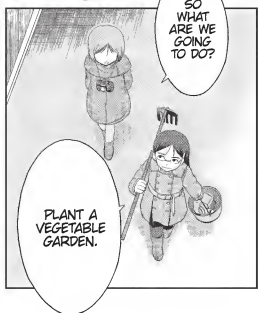
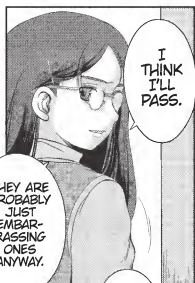
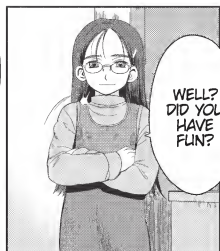
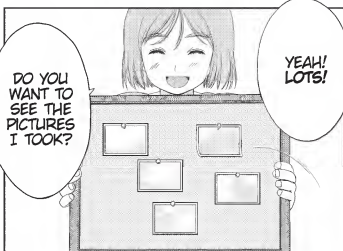
THAT COULD
MAKE HER FIT
FOR USE AS A
GUINEA PIG.
ALL NEW CYBORG
PARTS AND
DEVELOPMENTS
CAN BE TESTED
ON HER FIRST,
LOWERING
THE IMPACT--
AND WEAR--
ON THE REST.



THEN SHE
WOULD
NOT NEED
A NEW
MASTER.













LAST YEAR'S BOMBING OF THE PIAZZA DELLA REPUBBLICA, ALONG WITH AT LEAST FOUR OTHER TERRORIST ACTS, HAVE BEEN PINNED ON HIM SO FAR.



HE'S SO LEFT-WING, EVEN OTHER PADANIA NUTJOBS CONSIDER HIM A RADICAL. HE EVEN HAS TIES TO THE OLD BRIGATE ROSSE...

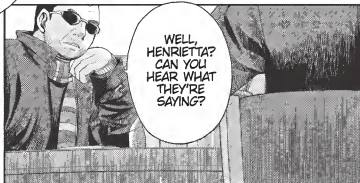


THAT ONE THERE, SEATED ALL THE WAY IN THE BACK. THAT'S ENRICO BERDINI.



"ONCE OUR NEXT PLAN SUCCEEDS, THE GOVERNMENT WILL BE FORCED TO RECONSIDER WHERE IT SENDS THE PEOPLE'S HARD-EARNED MONEY..."

"THE SOUTH ALREADY STEALS ENOUGH OF THE TAXES GLEANED FROM HONEST NORTHERN WORKERS. ALLOWING THEM TO TAKE EVEN MORE IS INTOLERABLE."



WELL, HENRIETTA? CAN YOU HEAR WHAT THEY'RE SAYING?



YES. THEY'RE TALKING ABOUT COMPLICATED, POLITICAL THINGS...

IT SOUNDS LIKE CRITICISMS OF THE SVILUPPO ITALIA COMPANY'S PLAN TO DEVELOP MORE INTO THE SOUTH.



MEN LIKE HIM DON'T GIVE A DAMN, ONE WAY OR THE OTHER. THEY'LL FLY THE FLAG OF WHATEVER GROUP GIVES THEM THE MOST MONEY.



SO HE CHANGED HIS MIND, AND JOINED PADANIA?



THE MAN USED TO BE AN ANARCHIST. HE MUST'VE CHANGED HIS TUNE, LOOKING FOR BETTER MONEY.

FISHING FOR FUNDS, HUH...

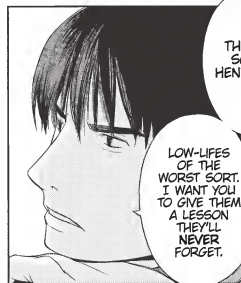


FUNDING LIKE THAT IS A FAR CRY FROM THE OLD DAYS, WHEN THE BRIGATE ROSSE HAD TO KNOCK OVER BANKS TO GET THEIR CAPITAL.



RIGHT NOW, THE FIVE REPUBLICS FACTION AND THE PADANIA VALLEY SECESSION MOVEMENT, OUR "PADANIA TERRORISTS," ARE BACKED BY RICH NORTH-ERNERS...

INVESTORS WITH DEEP POCKETS WHO DON'T LIKE EUROPE'S POLITICAL SHIFT TO THE RIGHT, OR THE TREND TOWARDS GLOBALIZATION AND THE SUCH.



THEY'RE SCUM, HENRIETTA.

LOW-LIFES OF THE WORST SORT. I WANT YOU TO GIVE THEM A LESSON THEY'LL NEVER FORGET.



TWITCH



IS THAT TRUE, SIGNORE JOSE...?

CHAPTER 7: GELATO IN PIAZZA DI SPAGNA







HE'S ONE
OF THOSE
REALLY
DANGEROUS
NUTJOBS OUT
THERE FOR
WHOM THE
MEANS HAS
LITERALLY
BECOME THE
ENDS.



SO WHAT
IS THIS
"PLAN"
ENRICO WAS
TALKING
ABOUT?

BLOWING UP
SOME
PLACE OR
ANOTHER,
NO DOUBT.



THERE'S
NOTHING
TO BE DIS-
APPOINTED
ABOUT.



HM?
WHAT'S
WRONG,
KIDDO?

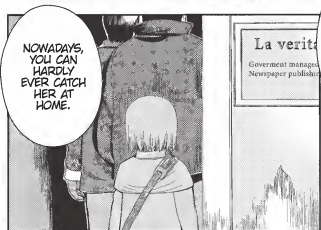
AH!

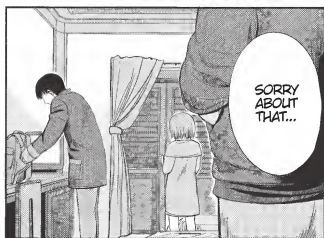


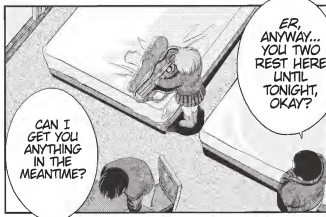
ONCE
BACKUP GETS
HERE AND YOU
CLEAN UP
THINGS NICE
AND TIDY,
I'M SURE
HE'LL GET
YOU A
PRESENT.

JOSE ISN'T
THINKING
YOU'RE
NOT UP
TO THE
TASK, I
PROMISE.









CAN I
GET YOU
ANYTHING
IN THE
MEANTIME?

ER,
ANYWAY...
YOU TWO
REST HERE
UNTIL
TONIGHT,
OKAY?



I DON'T
MIND.
IT'S THE
SAME, NO
MATTER
WHERE
WE GO.



I COULD
USE SOME
FN SB193s
FOR
HENRIETTA.
ALSO,
A FIVE-SEVEN
WOULD BE
GOOD.

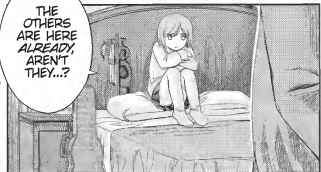
YEAH...

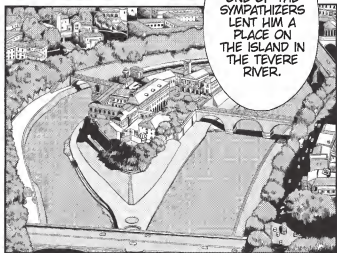


YES.
BOTH
RICO
AND
TRIELA
CAME.



THE
OTHERS
ARE HERE
ALREADY,
AREN'T
THEY...?







SORRY,
FRANCA.
I WANTED
TO BE SURE
I GOT A
GOOD LOOK
AT THE
PLACE.



THE
DEAL WAS
WE WOULD
HAND
OVER THE
GOODS IN
OSTIA.



ENRICO,
WHY DID
YOU GO
TO ROME
OF ALL
PLACES?



ANYWAY,
I WANT
TO SET
IT OFF
TOMORROW
...

SO TRY TO
GET IT TO
ME FIRST
THING,
TOMORROW
MORNING.



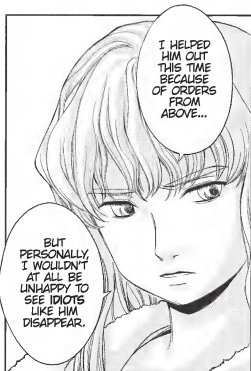
ISN'T
ROME
SUPPOSED
TO BE
RIGHT IN
THE LAP OF
THAT NEW
"AGENCY,"
OR
WHATEVER?

SPENDING
TOO MUCH
TIME
THERE IS
DANGER-
OUS.



I KNOW.
THEY TRIED
TAILING ME
EARLIER
TODAY, BUT
I LOST
THEM.

BESIDES,
THEY'RE
PROBABLY
TOO BUSY
WITH THE
MUSEUM
RIGHT
NOW.







GO TAKE
A LOOK,
AND SEE
WHAT'S
GOING
ON.

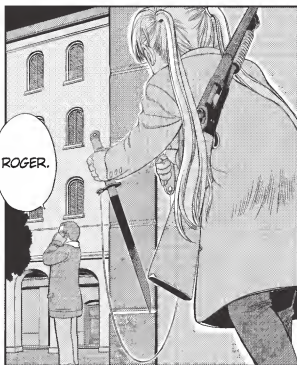


SIR?

THERE'S
SOME-
THING
ODD
ABOUT
THE FAR
SHORE.



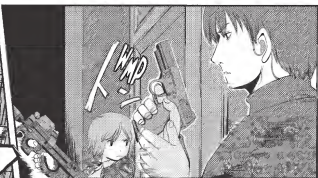
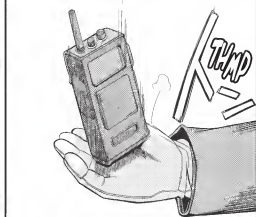
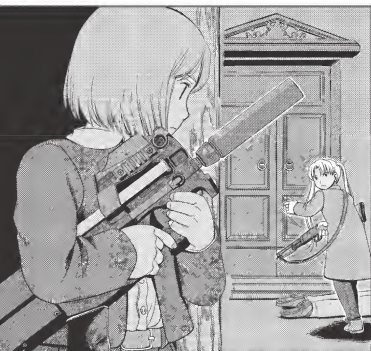
SIMONE.



ROGER.

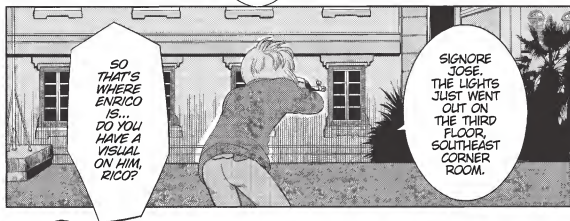


SWP











GOOD!
I'LL HAVE
HENRIETTA
PUSH THE
ATTACK.
LET'S
PIN HIM
IN THAT
CORNER.



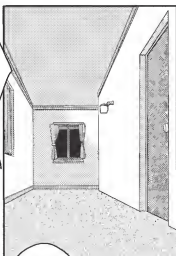
I JUST
SENT
TRIELA
UP THE
WEST
WALL.



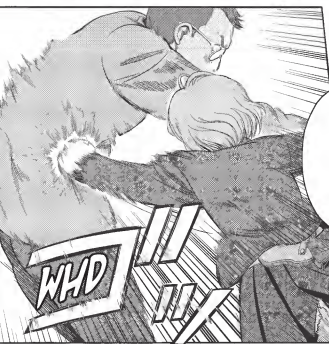
PLEASE,
DON'T
SHOOT!!

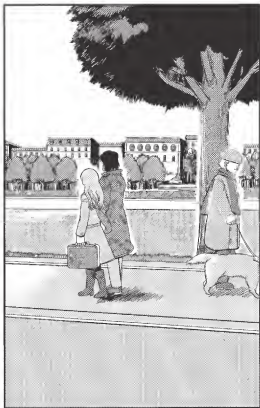
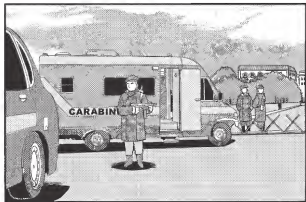
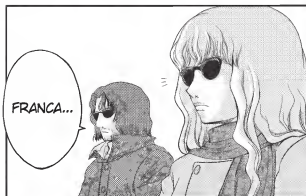
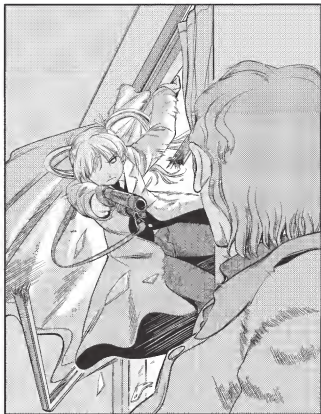


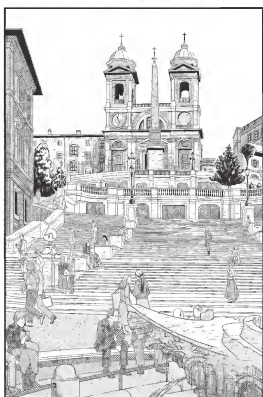
KYAA
!!



H-HELP
ME...









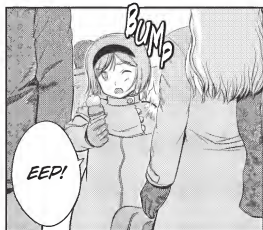
WHOOOPS!
ARE
YOU ALL
RIGHT?

HAVING A
GELATO IN
THE PIAZZA
DI SPAGNA
HAS ITS
OWN
MEANING.

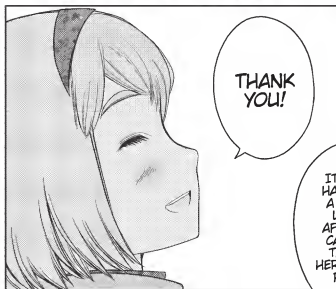
UM, YES...
I'M SORRY
FOR
BUMPING
INTO YOU.



IT'S
FINE.



EEP!

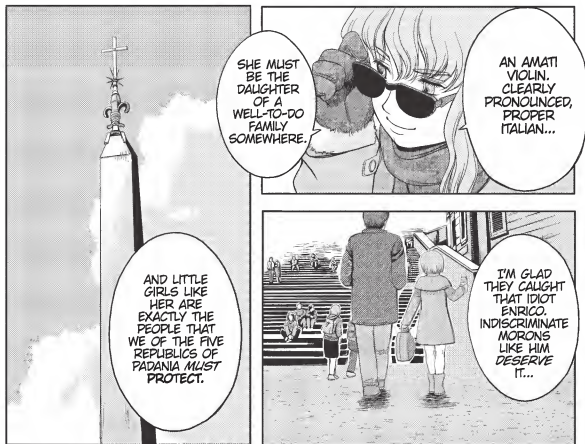


THANK
YOU!

IT WOULD
HAVE BEEN
A PITY TO
LOSE IT
AFTER YOU
CAME ALL
THE WAY
HERE TO THE
PIAZZA.

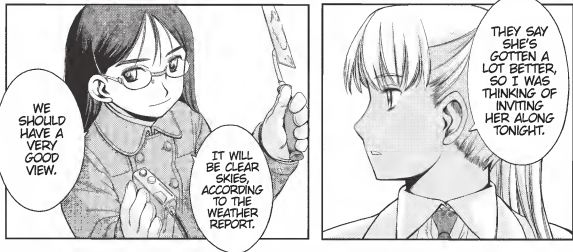
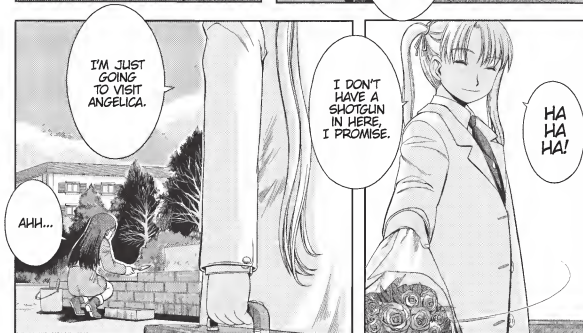
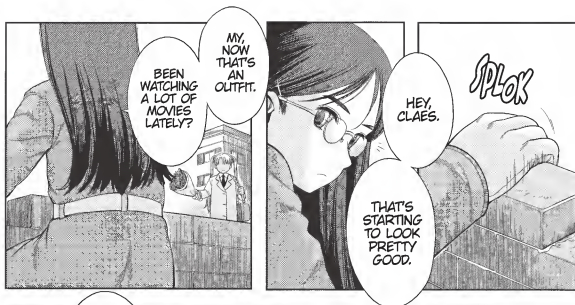


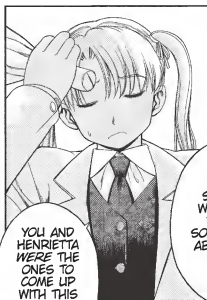
THAT'S
OKAY.
I'M GLAD
YOUR
GELATO
IS FINE.



GUNSLINGERGIRL.







YOU AND HENRIETTA WERE THE ONES TO COME UP WITH THIS IDEA IN THE FIRST PLACE...

SO YOU WANT ME TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT?



APPARENTLY, SIGNORE JOSE IS TOO BUSY TO COME TONIGHT.

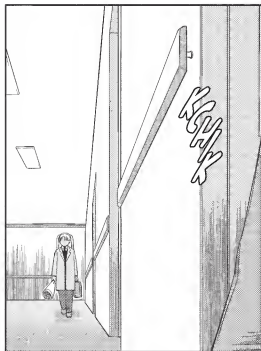


OH, TRIELA? ABOUT TONIGHT'S SUPERVISOR...

WHAT ABOUT IT?

CHAPTER 8: ODE TO JOY

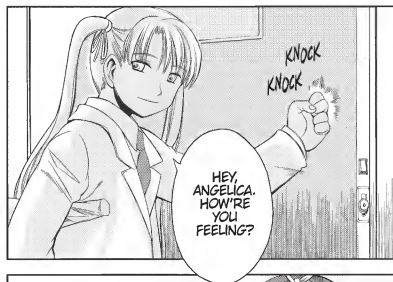
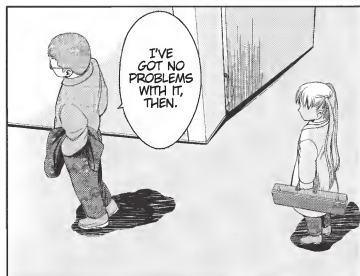




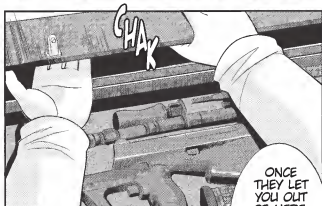
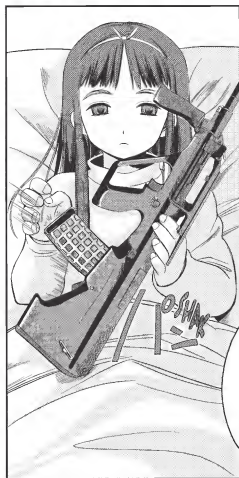
YEAH,
I GUESS.

MAY
I?

YOU
WANT
TO SEE
ANGELICA
?



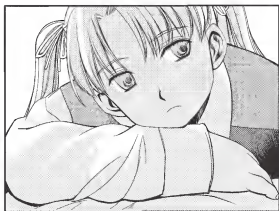


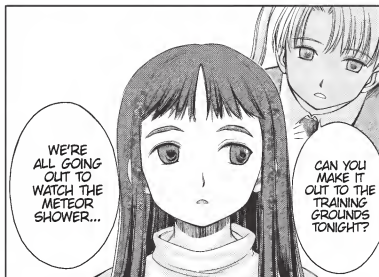


THEY'LL PROBABLY START YOU OUT WITH TAKING ONE APART AND PUTTING IT BACK TOGETHER, BLIND-FOLDED...

ONCE THEY LET YOU OUT OF HERE, YOU'RE GOING STRAIGHT BACK INTO TRAINING, RIGHT?







WE'RE
ALL GOING
OUT TO
WATCH THE
METEOR
SHOWER...

CAN YOU
MAKE IT
OUT TO THE
TRAINING
GROUNDS
TONIGHT?



AH!
OH
YEAH.



WELL,
I'D
BETTER
GET
GOING.



I
SEE...



I WAS
TOLD I'M
NOT
ALLOWED
TO LEAVE
THE
ROOM.



I
ALMOST
FORGOT.
SORRY.

OH
YEAH...



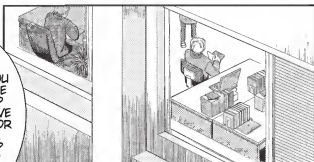
WHAT
ABOUT THE
OTHER
THING I
ASKED YOU
FOR?

OH,
TRIELA?

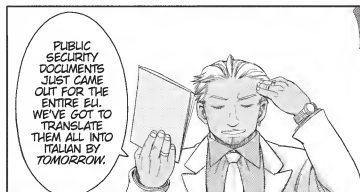


SIGNORE JOSE SAID
HE'S TOO
BUSY
TONIGHT TO
DO IT...

WOULD YOU
SUPERVISE
OUR TRIP
TO OBSERVE
THE METEOR
SHOWER
TONIGHT?
PLEASE?



SIGNORE
HILSHIRE
...?



PUBLIC
SECURITY
DOCUMENTS
JUST CAME
OUT FOR THE
ENTIRE EU.
WE'VE GOT TO
TRANSLATE
THEM ALL INTO
ITALIAN BY
TOMORROW.



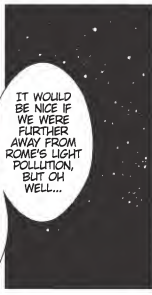
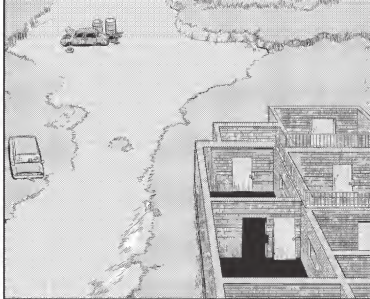
I'M SORRY,
TRIELA,
BUT WE
ARE BUSY
HERE AS
WELL.

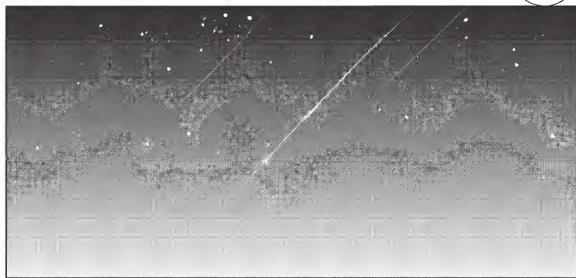


I KNOW
BOTH
FRENCH AND
GERMAN
WELL
ENOUGH TO
TRANSLATE
FROM THEM.



I CAN
HELP YOU
UNTIL
IT'S TIME
TO GO.







YEAH. DURING THE DAY, THINGS JUST KEEP GETTING MORE AND MORE COMPLICATED.

AND THERE'S ALWAYS MORE STUFF WE NEED TO THINK ABOUT...



IT'S SO QUIET...



I BET SHE'S LISTENING TO THE 9TH AND WATCHING THE SKY RIGHT NOW.

I TOLD HER WHEN IT WOULD START.



I WISH WE COULD HAVE SHOWN THIS TO ANGIE.



BEING ABLE TO KICK BACK, RELAX AND JUST LET OUR MINDS BE BLANK LIKE THIS IS REALLY NICE.



THAT'S CERTAINLY A VERY APPROPRIATE SELECTION FOR A NIGHT LIKE TONIGHT.



THE 9TH? YOU MEAN BEETHOVEN'S "9TH SYMPHONY"?

YEAH.



YEE!

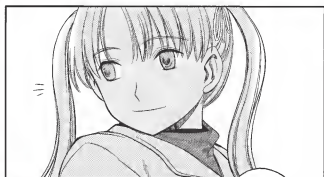
O Freunde, nicht diese Töne!
Sondern laßt uns angenehmere
anstimmen und freudenvollere!
O FRIENDS, NOT THESE TONES!
RATHER, LET US RAISE OUR
VOICES IN MORE PLEASING AND
MORE JOYFUL SOUNDS!

sky



...LIKE THAT?

BEETHOVEN'S
9TH, HM?
DOESN'T IT
GO...



Wir betreten feuertrunken ♪
WE ENTER, DRUNK WITH FIRE...

Himmliche, dein Heiligtum ♪
INTO YOUR SANCTUARY,
HEAVENLY DAUGHTER!



READY...?
HERE
WE GO!

Freude, schöner Götterfunken
JOY, BEAUTIFUL SPARK OF DIVINITY
Tochter aus Elysium ♪
DAUGHTER OF ELYSIUM.



WHAT CUSTOM
STRICTLY DIVIDED. ♪

YOUR MAGIC
RELINATES... ♪



WHAT IS SO FUNNY, ALFONSO?

♪WHERE YOUR GENTLE WING RESTS.

HEH
HEH
HEH
HEH
HEH
...



♪ALL MEN BECOME BROTHERS...



AND THERE SHE IS, STANDING OUTSIDE ON A FRIKKEN' FREEZING WINTER NIGHT, STARING AT THE STARS AND SINGING BEETHOVEN!

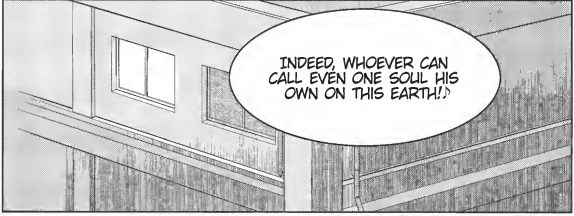
IT'S A REAL SHAME SHE GOT STUCK AS A CYBORG!

JOIN IN OUR JUBILATION!♪

WHOEVER HAS HAD THE GREAT FORTUNE TO BE A FRIEND'S FRIEND, WHOEVER HAS WON A DEVOTED WIFE...♪

SHE'S A TRILINGUAL GIRL, TRAINED TO BE A WALKING ANTI-TERRORIST WEAPON...

ISN'T IT FUNNY TO YOU? THINK ABOUT IT, MAN!

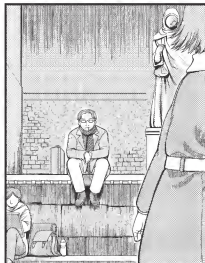
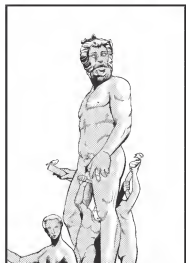
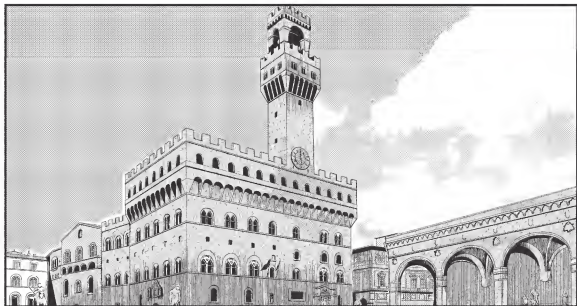


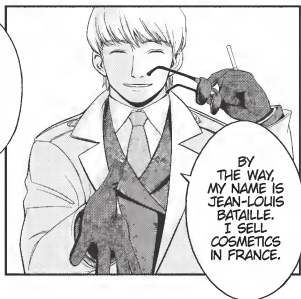
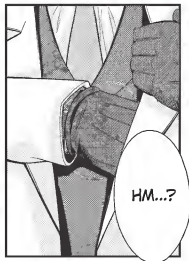
INDEED, WHOEVER CAN CALL EVEN ONE SOUL HIS OWN ON THIS EARTH!♪

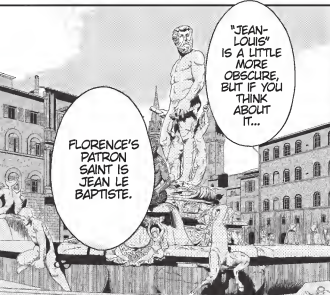
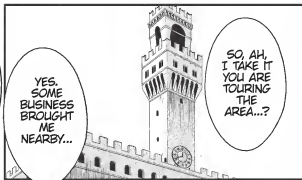


GUNSLINGERGIRL.



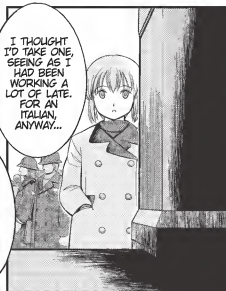
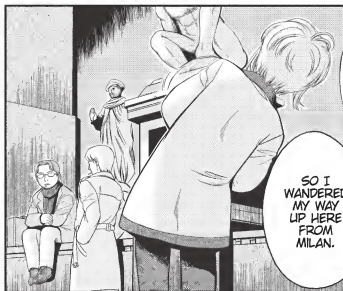


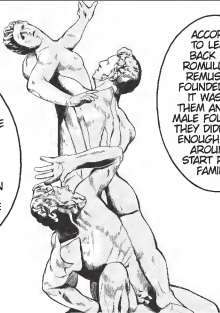






CHAPTER 9: HOW BEAUTIFUL MY FLORENCE IS!





SO THEY INVENTED A FESTIVAL AND INVITED ALL THE NEIGHBORING VILLAGES TO ATTEND. WHEN THE WOMEN FROM SABINE CAME, THE MEN KIDNAPPED THEM TO MAKE THEM THEIR WIVES.

ACCORDING TO LEGEND, BACK WHEN ROMULUS AND REMUS FIRST FOUNDED ROME, IT WAS ONLY THEM AND THEIR MALE FOLLOWERS. THEY DIDN'T HAVE ENOUGH WOMEN AROUND TO START PROPER FAMILIES.



IT IS A MASTERFUL WORK, DEPICTING THREE ENTIRE FIGURES, ALL CARVED FROM ONE PIECE OF MARBLE.



WELL, A LITTLE PERHAPS ...

YOU SEEM QUITE KNOWLEDGEABLE ABOUT THE ART HERE.



HM. MAYBE THIS ISN'T THE BEST TALE FOR CHILDREN.

THEY KIDNAPPED ALL THE GIRLS...?



I WOULD BE DELIGHTED.

NEVER MIND...

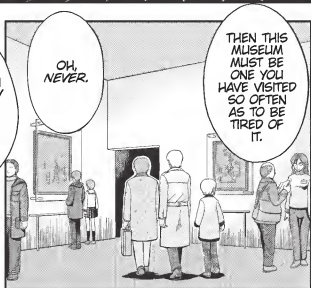
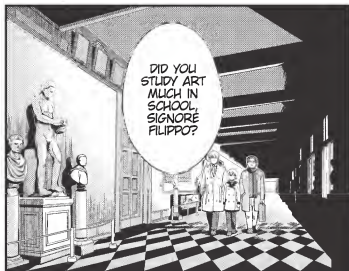


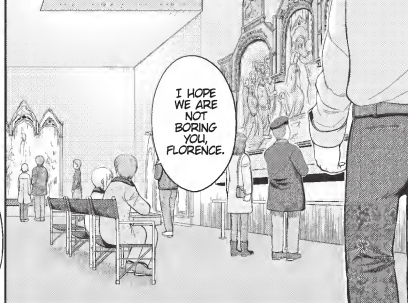
ER...

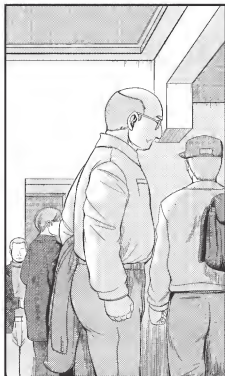
STAYING TOO CLOSE TO ME ISN'T THE...

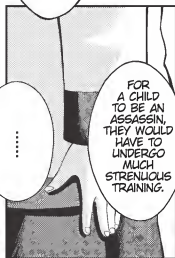


WOULD YOU BE KIND ENOUGH TO TAKE US ON A TOUR OF THE BEST ART SPOTS OF THE CITY? IF YOU DON'T MIND, OF COURSE.













FREEZE.

SWIP!!



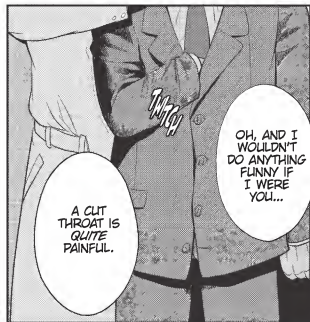
GOD...
THIS IS FLORENCE,
FOR CHRISMAKES.
WHERE'RE WE GONNA
FIND A PLACE LIKE
THAT?



RIGHT...
HE SAID
NOWHERE
AROUND A
CHURCH,
OR A
MUSEUM,
EITHER.



SO ARE
YOU TWO
HITMEN THAT
PIRAZZI
HIRED?
OR ARE YOU
PADANIA?



A CLIT
THROAT IS
QUITE
PAINFUL.

OH, AND I
WOULDN'T
DO ANYTHING
FUNNY IF
I WERE
YOU...



PUT
THE
PHONE
DOWN.

R-
RIGHT...



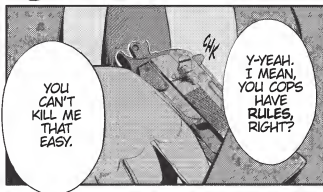
ONE.
I AM
NOT THE
POLICE.

OH,
BUT I CAN.
LET ME
TELL YOU
THE TWO
REASONS
WHY.



REALLY
NOW.

YOU'RE
NOT
GONNA
KILL ME.



YOU
CAN'T
KILL ME
THAT
EASY.

Y-YEAH.
I MEAN,
YOU COPS
HAVE
RULES,
RIGHT?



YES, A
LITTLE.

SIGNORE
FILIPPO?
YOU USED
TO STUDY
PAINTING
AND STUFF
BEFORE,
RIGHT?

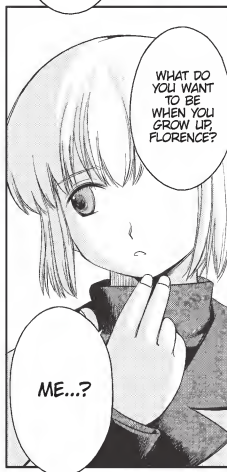


WHY
DIDN'T YOU
BECOME A
PAINTER?

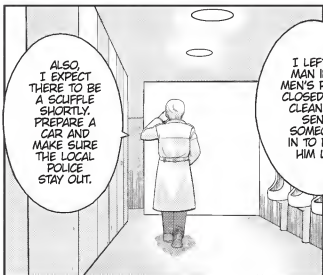
AHA
HA
HA...



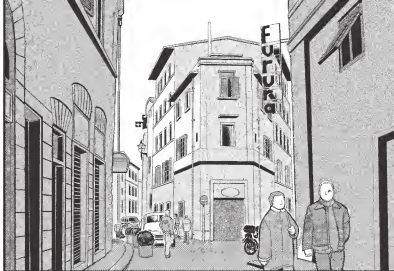
AND TWO...
I DESPISE
BOTH
HITMEN
AND
PADANIA.







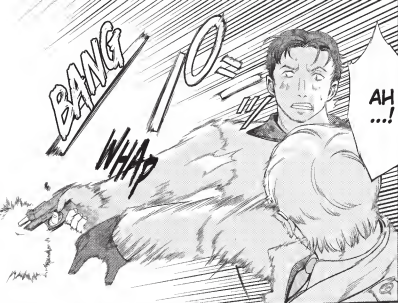


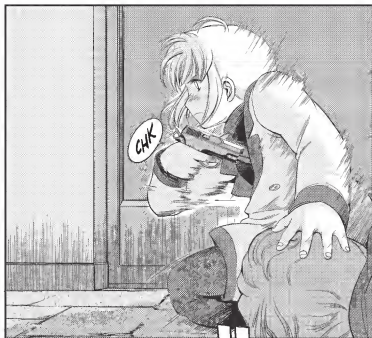


EVEN
THE BACK
STREETS
HERE
ARE A
THING OF
BEAUTY.













YES.
I ASSUME
THE LEDGERS
YOU STOLE
FROM HIM
PROVE THAT
HE HAS BEEN
FUNDING
PADANIA
TERRORISTS.



SO YOU
KNEW...



YOU
ARE THE
PERSONAL
ACCOUNTANT
FOR THE
MILLIONAIRE
PIRAZZI,
CORRECT?



OH... I
ACCIDENTALLY
OVERHEARD
THE PLANS
FOR THEIR
NEXT BIG
OPERATION.

I GUESS
THEY WOULDN'T
WANT
THAT
GETTING
OUT
EITHER.



AND
WHAT
ELSE?

YES,
THEY
DO.



WHAT
OTHER
REASON DID
YOU GIVE
PADANIA FOR
WANTING TO
ERASE YOU
THIS
QUICKLY?

SORRY?



BUT I
COULDN'T
STAND UP TO
MY FATHER...
I DID AS HE
TOLD ME TO,
AND GAVE
UP ART TO
BECOME AN
ACCOUNTANT.

AT THE RISK
OF SOUNDING
LIKE I'M
BRAGGING,
I DON'T HAVE
SO MUCH
AS A SINGLE
TRAFFIC
TICKET ON MY
RECORD.



WE WILL
TALK
MORE IN
DEPTH
ABOUT
THAT
LATER.

I
SEE...



WHAT MADE
YOU DECIDE
TO TURN
ON YOUR
EMPLOYER?



I KNEW
PIRAZZI HAD
CONNECTIONS
WITH THE
POLICE...

SO I
FIGURED IF
I WAS JUST
GOING TO
GET KILLED
BY SOME
HITMAN
ANYWAY...



I MIGHT
AS WELL
MAKE
ONE LAST
VISIT TO
FLORENCE.



THAT'S
WHEN I FOUND
OUT HE HAD
SPENT OVER
TWENTY YEARS
HELPING
PIRAZZI EVADE
TAXES AND
FUND
TERRORISM.

I...
COULDN'T
STAND THAT.
SO I
GRABBED THE
ACCOUNT
LEDGERS
AND RAN.



NO. MILITARY SERVICE IS A MAN'S DUTY. I SERVED ON THE BORDER FOR THIRTEEN MONTHS...

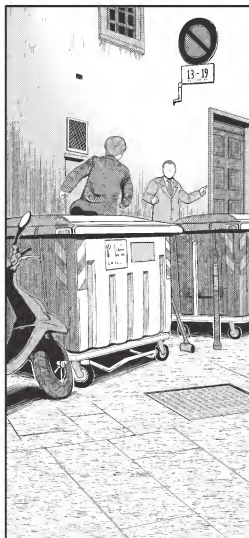


GIVEN YOUR ATTITUDE, FILIPPO, I ASSUME YOU CHOSE CONSCIENTIOUS OBJECTION?

I HEAR MULTIPLE FOOT-STEPS COMING THIS WAY.



SIGNORE JEAN.

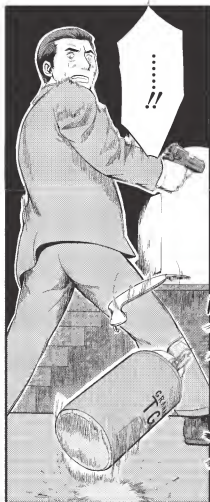


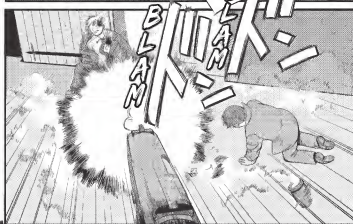
SO YOU KNOW HOW TO HANDLE A BERETTA THEN. GOOD.



RICO, TAKE FILIPPO AND GO THROUGH THIS YARD TO THE ARNO RIVER.

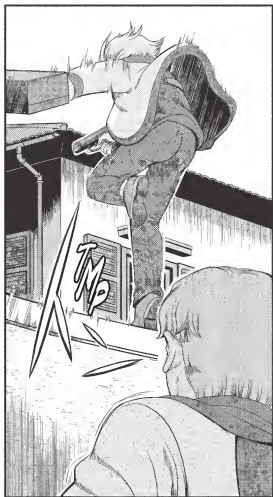
THERE SHOULD BE A CAR WAITING FOR US THERE.







GRAB
MY
HAND.



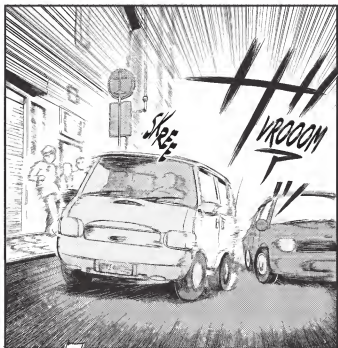
WHEN WE
WERE AT
THE LUFFIZI,
WAS WHAT
YOU SAID
TO ME THEN
A LIE AS
WELL?

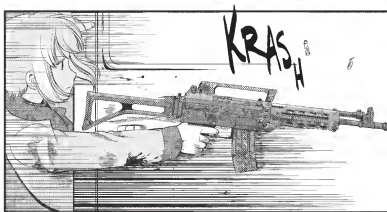
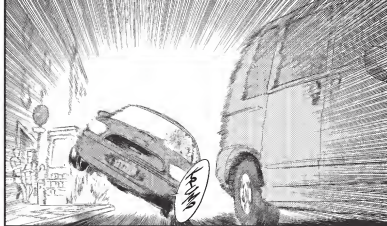


FLORENCE
...?

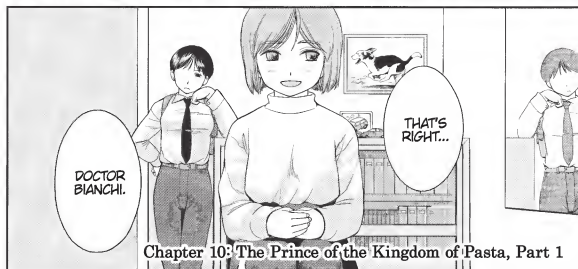


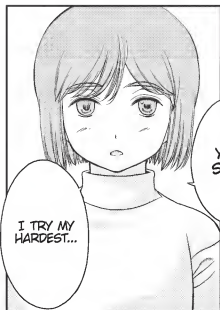












YES,
SIR...

I TRY MY
HARDEST...



AND DO
AS YOUR
HANDLER
TELLS
YOU TO,
DESPITE
HOW YOU
MAY FEEL
?



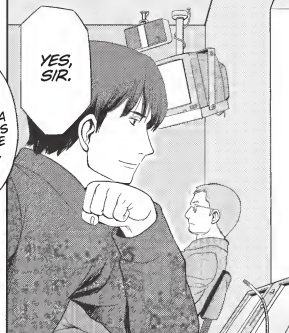
HOW
ABOUT YOUR
EMOTIONS?
ARE YOU
CONFIDENT
THAT YOU
CAN CONTROL
THEM
PROPERLY...



I KNOW
THAT,
GIVEN
YOUR
CIRCUM-
STANCES,
THIS WILL
SOUND
VERY
CRUEL,
BUT...

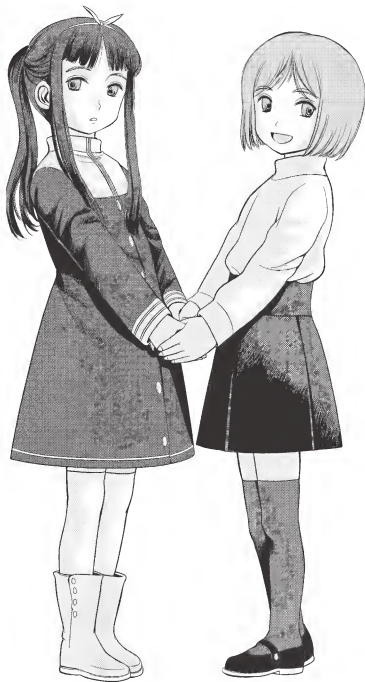


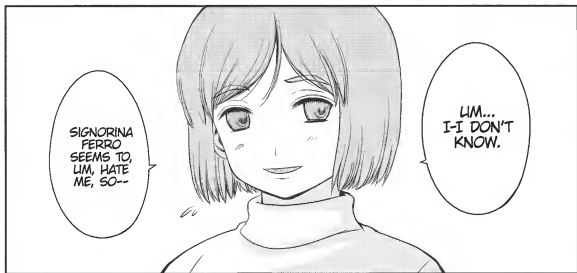
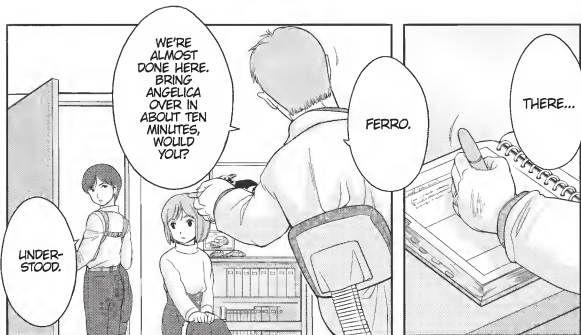
YOU DO
REALIZE
YOU HAVE
TO BE
ABLE TO
DO THAT,
RIGHT?
YOU HAVE
NO
CHOICE.





CHAPTER 10:
THE PRINCE OF THE KINGDOM OF PASTA, PART 1







HUMMING
OFF-KEY
TUNES TO
HERSELF,
WHILE
FEEDING
HER CATS
AND BAKING
GRATIN FOR
HERSELF.

I BET YOU
ON HER
DAYS OFF,
SHE
PUTTERS
ABOUT...

HOW
DOES THE
DOC KNOW
THAT
STUFF...?
IS HE
PSYCHIC
OR SOME-
THING?



I DON'T
THINK SHE
HATES YOU.
SHE JUST
TAKES HER
JOB VERY
SERIOUSLY.



MY OLDEST
SISTER IS
THE NICEST
PERSON
YOU'D EVER
MEET, WHEN
SHE'S AT
HOME.

MAYBE,
BUT I
DO HAVE
A BASIS
FOR IT.



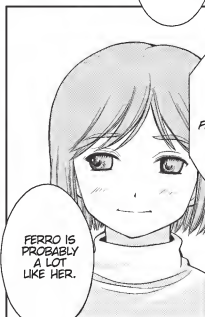
BUT
THAT'S
JUST A
GUESS.
RIGHT,
DOCTOR
...?



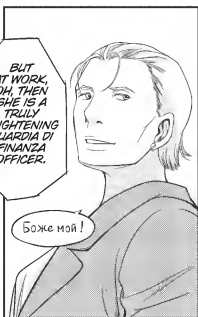
SHE'LL
HAVE AN
APRON ON,
ONE THAT
LOOKS
LIKE...THIS.
RED AND
WHITE
CHECKERED
PATTERN, OF
COURSE.



FROM AN
OBJECTIVE
STAND-
POINT,
THOUGH...

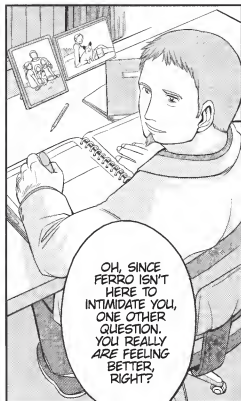


FERRO IS
PROBABLY
A LOT
LIKE HER.



BUT
AT WORK,
OH, THEN
SHE IS A
TRULY
FRIGHTENING
GUARDIA DI
FINANZA
OFFICER.

Боже мой!



OH, SINCE FERRO ISN'T HERE TO INTIMIDATE YOU, ONE OTHER QUESTION. YOU REALLY ARE FEELING BETTER, RIGHT?



AIN'T THAT THE TRUTH!

FERRO IS EQUALLY STRICT WITH EVERYONE HERE.



SO, THERE'S ANOTHER THING FOR YOU TO WORK ON: FIXING YOUR HABIT OF WORRYING OVER NOTHING. OKAY?

SHE IS NOT SINGLING YOU OUT, SO THERE IS NO REASON FOR YOU TO FEEL BAD ABOUT ANYTHING.



BUT I KILLED TEN LAST MONTH!

I KNOW I'VE ONLY KILLED FOUR PEOPLE SO FAR THIS MONTH.

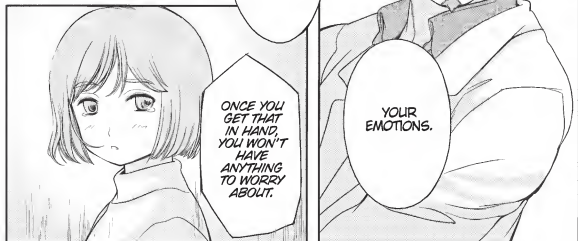
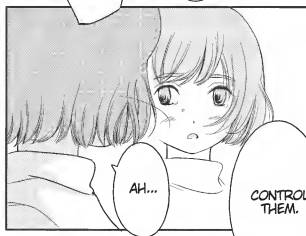
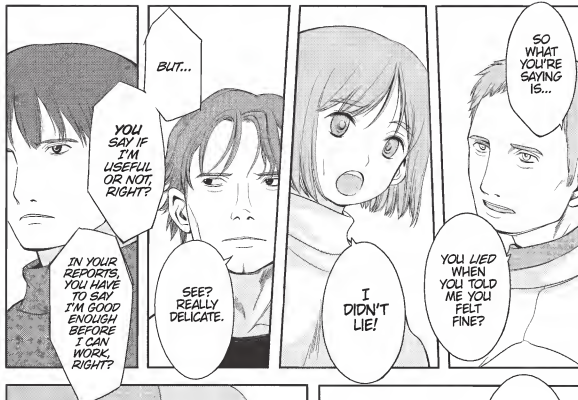


THAT'S PROBABLY MORE THAN EVEN TRIELA!

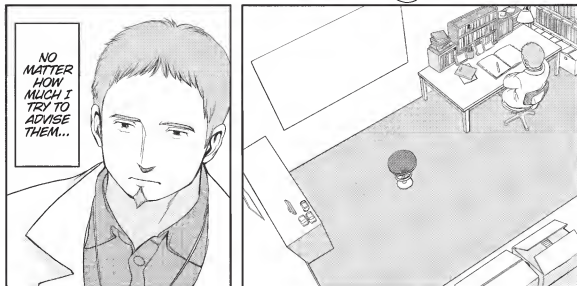


DOCTOR ...?

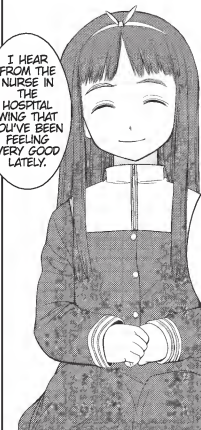
YOU'RE NOT GOING TO MAKE ME STOP WORKING, ARE YOU?







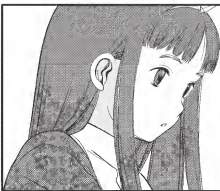




I HEAR FROM THE NURSE IN THE HOSPITAL WING THAT YOU'VE BEEN FEELING VERY GOOD LATELY.

IT HAS BEEN A WHILE SINCE I LAST SAW YOU...

AH WELL..



DOCTOR BIANCHI...



YES.

THAT'S WHAT IT SAYS HERE ON MY ID CARD.

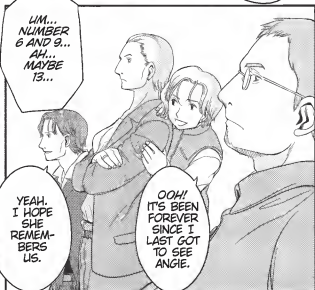
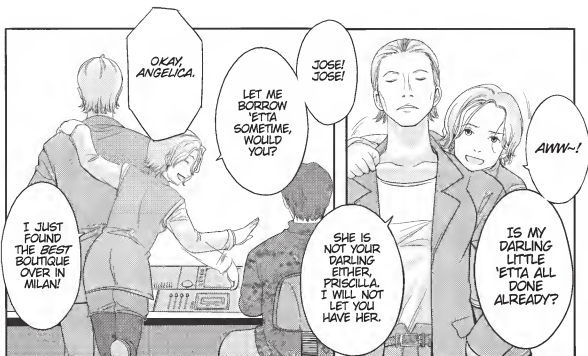


I SEE.

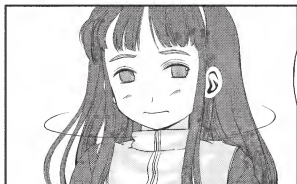
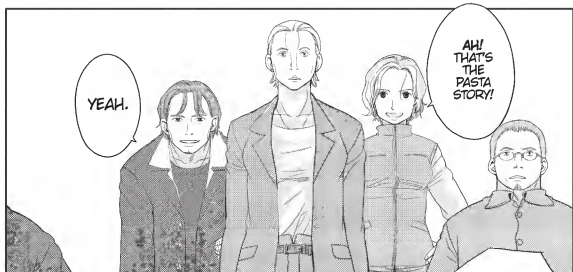
WHEW! MADE IT!



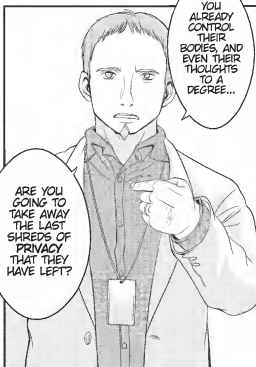
MARCO! IT'S ANGIE'S TURN.







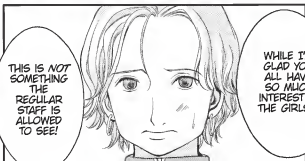




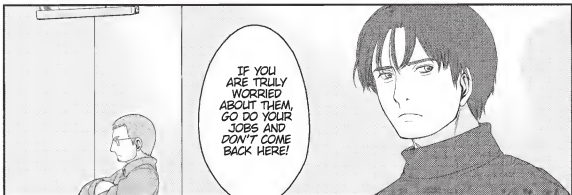
YOU
ALREADY
CONTROL
THEIR
BODIES, AND
EVEN THEIR
THOUGHTS
TO A
DEGREE...

UM, YEAH.
AND IT'S NOT
LIKE WE GET THE
CHANCE TO SIT
AND WATCH THE
GIRLS THAT
OFTEN, EVEN
THOUGH WE'RE
ALL PART OF
SECTION 2...

ER, WELL...
WE HEARD
WE COULD
GET TO SEE
SOMETHING
UNIQUE IF
WE CAME.



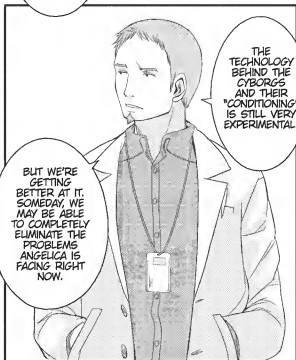
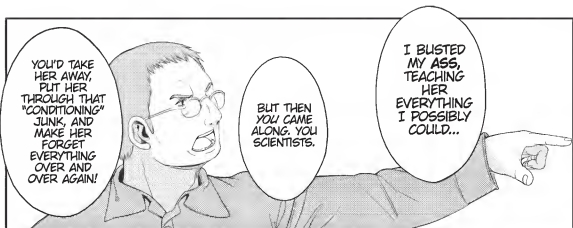
WHILE I'M
GLAD YOU
ALL HAVE
SO MUCH
INTEREST IN
THE GIRLS...



JOSE,
ARE YOU
SATISFIED
NOW...?







I'VE
FINALLY
BEEN LET
OUT
OF THE
HOSPITAL!

NOW WE
CAN BE
TOGETHER
AGAIN.

SIGNORE
MARCO...

ANGELICA...

WHEN
CAN I
START--

IF YOU'RE
STILL THAT
UNSTEADY ON
YOUR OWN
TWO FEET,
YOU'LL BE
NOTHING BUT
USELESS,
DEAD
WEIGHT.

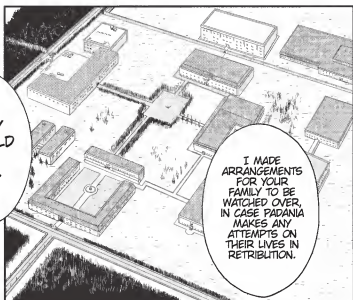
NOW
GO GET
CHANGED,
AND RUN
AROUND THE
COMPOUND
UNTIL I SAY
OTHERWISE!

YOU'RE
NOT
NEARLY
READY TO
WORK!



I SEE.
THANK
YOU...

THEY
SHOULD
BE
FINE.



I MADE
ARRANGEMENTS
FOR YOUR
FAMILY TO BE
WATCHED OVER,
IN CASE PADANIA
MAKES ANY
ATTEMPTS ON
THEIR LIVES IN
RETRIBUTION.



YES.

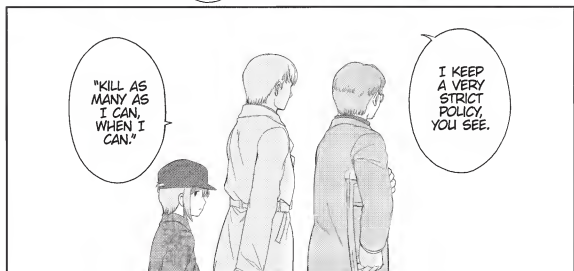
I MUST
SAY YOU ARE
PROBABLY
HOPING THAT
THEY DO TRY
SOMETHING,
AREN'T
YOU?



BUT...



LOOKING
BACK ON
IT NOW, I
ACTED VERY
RASHLY,
DIDN'T I?



"KILL AS
MANY AS
I CAN,
WHEN I
CAN."

I KEEP
A VERY
STRICT
POLICY,
YOU SEE.



WHEN
ADULTS
FIGHT,
JUST LIKE
WHEN
CHILDREN
DO...

A FIST,
ONCE
RAISED,
MUST BE
BROUGHT
DOWN
SOME-
WHERE.

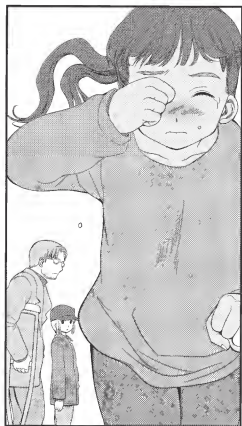


THOUGH,
IN THIS CASE,
STRIKING BACK
TOO HARD MAY
BE A POOR IDEA.
IT MAY RENDER
THE INTEL YOU
HAD ON THEM
USELESS.

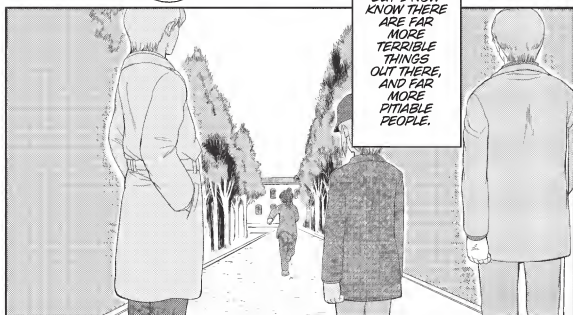
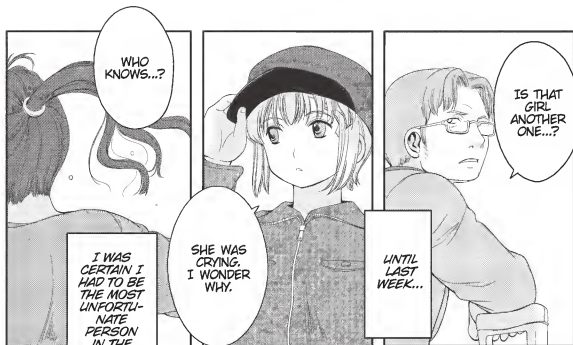


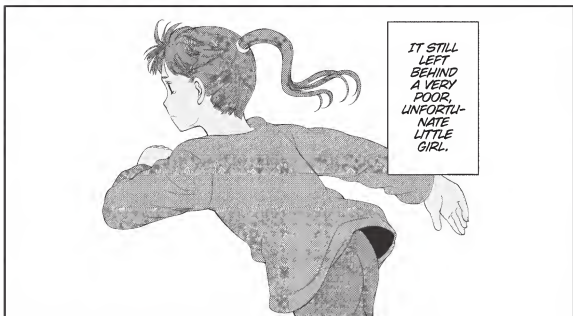
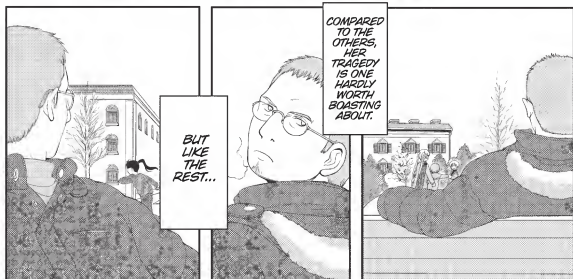
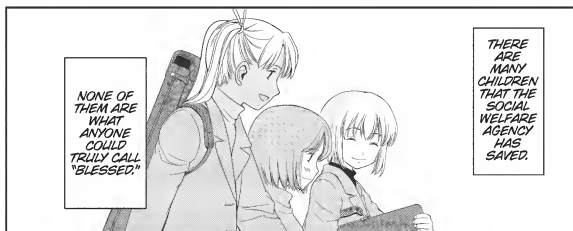
WON'T
THEY
SIMPLY
ABANDON
IT?

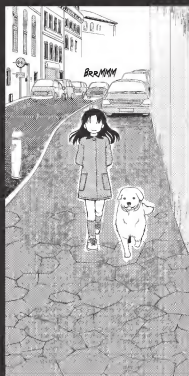
YOU THINK
THEY WILL STILL
GO THROUGH
WITH THE
PLAN AS IS?
THEY ALREADY
KNOW FOR
CERTAIN THAT
AT LEAST SOME
OF IT WAS
LEAKED.

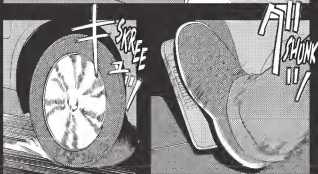


Tp Tp Tp



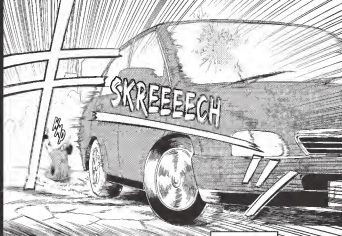




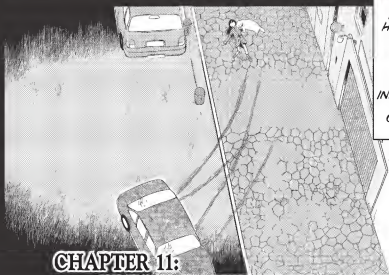




THE
FACTORY
HER
FATHER
RAN WAS
DANGER-
OUSLY
CLOSE TO
BANK-
RUPTCY...

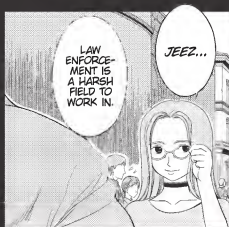


HER OWN
PARENTS
WERE
THE ONES
WHO
TRIED TO
KILL HER.

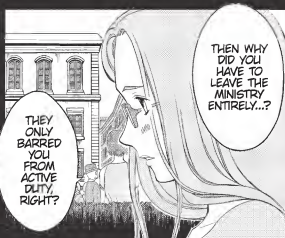
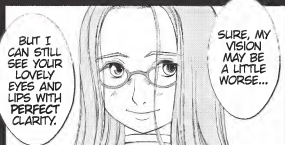


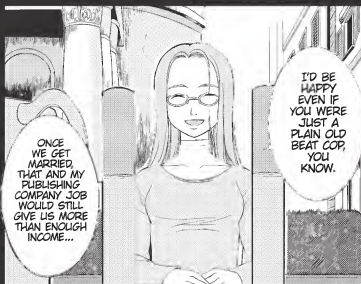
AND HE
HAD JUST
TAKEN
OUT A
VERY
LARGE
LIFE
INSURANCE
POLICY
ON HER.

CHAPTER 11: THE PRINCE OF THE KINGDOM OF PASTA, PART 2



JEEZ...





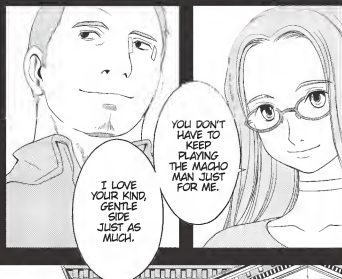
ONCE WE GET MARRIED, THAT AND MY PUBLISHING COMPANY JOB WOULD STILL GIVE US MORE THAN ENOUGH INCOME...

I'D BE HAPPY EVEN IF YOU WERE JUST A PLAIN OLD BEAT COP, YOU KNOW.



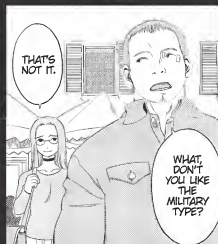
MINISTRY OF DEFENSE... STATE DEPARTMENT....

OR MAYBE EVEN JUST THE CARABINIERI. LOTS OF PLACES...



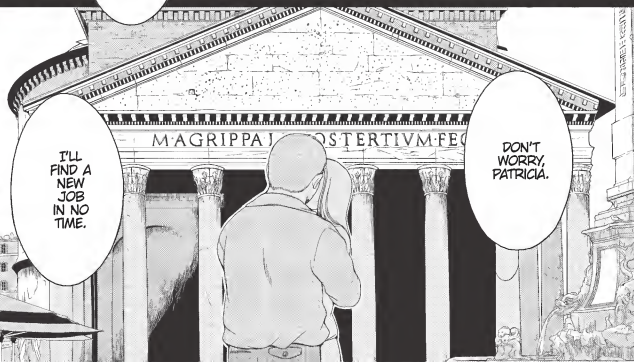
I LOVE YOUR KIND, GENTLE SIDE JUST AS MUCH.

YOU DON'T HAVE TO KEEP PLAYING THE MACHO MAN JUST FOR ME.



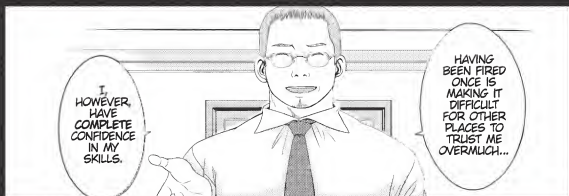
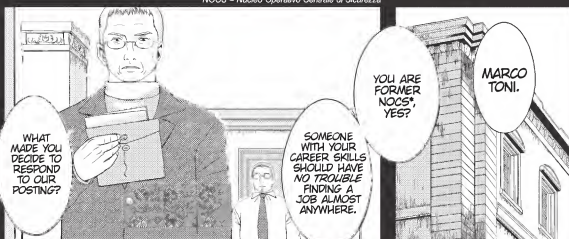
THAT'S NOT IT.

WHAT, DON'T YOU LIKE THE MILITARY TYPE?



I'LL FIND A NEW JOB IN NO TIME.

DON'T WORRY, PATRICIA.





IT WAS OUR DOCTOR BIANCHI WHO SUGGESTED YOU FOR THIS JOB.

SO WHAT BUREAU IS THIS NEW ORGANIZATION GOING TO BE PART OF? STATE DEPARTMENT?



I'VE GOT TO ADMIT, SIR, YOU'RE BEING IMPRESSIVELY CAUTIOUS WITH ALL THIS.

ONE MUST BE VERY THOROUGH WHEN BUILDING A NEW ORGANIZATION.

I'VE ALMOST LOST COUNT OF THE PLACES I'VE BEEN SENT AROUND TO IN THE LAST WEEK.



NOW, ALLOW ME TO EXPLAIN WHAT IT IS YOU WILL BE DOING FOR US.



NO, SIR. ALL HE SAID WAS, "IT'S AGAINST REGULATIONS TO SAY."

DID HE NOT TELL YOU ANYTHING?



SO HE IS KEEPING TO THE RULES. GOOD.



AH...
THE
ERRAND!

PERO...

MAMA...
PAPA...



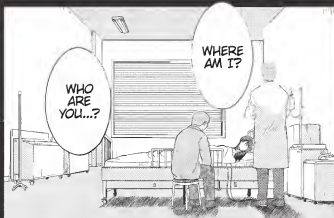
.....
?



THEN I
SAW LOTS
OF BLOOD
EVERYWHERE,
AND MY
BODY
WOULDN'T
MOVE...

I HAD TO
GO ON AN
ERRAND.
PERO CAME
WITH ME.
BUT THEN,
THERE WAS
THIS CAR,
AND A LOUD
THUMP.

REALLY?
BUT,
THAT'S
WEIRD...



WHO
ARE
YOU...?

WHERE
AM I?

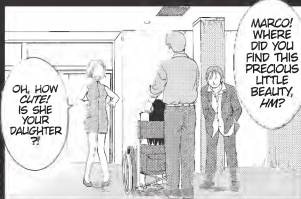


.....

YOU'RE
IN A PLACE
CALLED THE
SOCIAL
WELFARE
AGENCY.
IT'S LIKE A
HOSPITAL.







OH, HOW
CUTE!
IS SHE
YOUR
DAUGHTER
?!

MARCO!
WHERE
DID YOU
FIND THIS
PRECIOUS
LITTLE
BEAUTY,
HM?

BUT HE
DID GET
ONE THING
RIGHT
WHEN HE
NAMED
HER AFTER
THE
ANGELS.

HER
FATHER
MAY
HAVE
SEEN A
WORLD-
CLASS
BASTARD
...

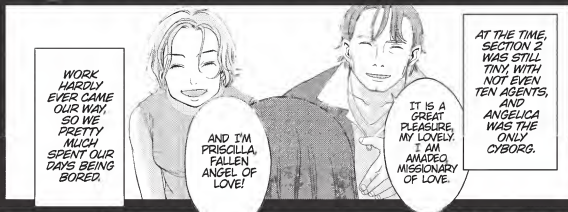


THIS IS
ANGELICA,
THE
EXPERIMENTAL
CYBORG.

HEY, NOW,
THAT'S
ENOUGH
WITH THE
INNUENDO,
YOU TWO
LETTCHES.



EEE!



WORK
HARDLY
EVER CAME
OUR WAY,
SO WE
PRETTY
MUCH
SPENT OUR
DAYS BEING
BORED.

AND I'M
PRISCILLA,
FALLEN
ANGEL OF
LOVE!

IT IS A
GREAT
PLEASURE,
MY LOVELY.
I AM
AMADEO
MISSIONARY
OF LOVE.

AT THE TIME,
SECTION 2
WAS STILL
TINY, WITH
NOT EVEN
TEN AGENTS,
AND
ANGELICA
WAS THE
ONLY
CYBORG.

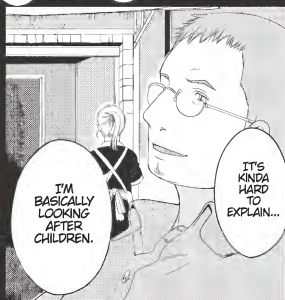
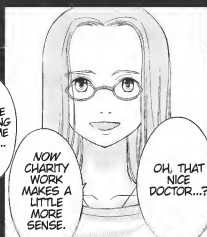


BUT I
NEVER
DREAMED
THAT THIS
WOULD BE
THE KIND
OF WORK
THEY'D
HAVE ME
DOING.

SO HOW
IS SHE
DOING,
MARCO?

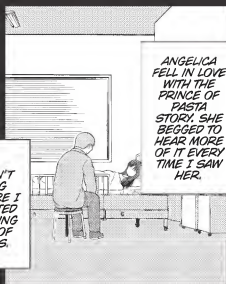
EVERYONE
THERE WAS
HIGHLY
SKILLED
IN ONE
THING OR
ANOTHER...







IT WASN'T LONG BEFORE I STARTED RUNNING OUT OF IDEAS.



ANGELICA FELL IN LOVE WITH THE PRINCE OF PASTA STORY. SHE BEGGED TO HEAR MORE OF IT EVERY TIME I SAW HER.



I CON-SCRIPTED SOME OF THE OTHER BORED AGENTS AND MADE THEM HELP ME TO THINK UP THE REST OF THE STORY.



THIS IS A FAIRY TALE, SO WHY DOESN'T HE GO LOOKING FOR A PRINCESS?

OOH! HOW ABOUT A PRINCESS WHO WAS KIDNAPPED... BY A DRAGON.



LOGICALLY, THE NEXT STEP SHOULD BE FINDING THAT SOMEONE, BUT YOU COULD ALSO MAYBE DETOUR ONTO A QUEST FOR A NEW FORK FIRST.

SO THE PRINCE OF PASTA DECIDED HE WANTED TO EAT HIS FAVORITE PASTA WITH SOMEONE, SO HE LEFT ON A JOURNEY TO FIND THEM, RIGHT?



UNDER COMMUNISM, MUCH OF THOSE WERE FORBIDDEN AS "SUPERSTITION."



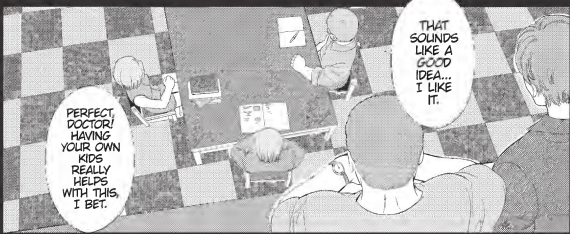
Princess Prince
Come wife
Dragon?



THE DRAGON THAT KIDNAPS THE PRINCESS LOOKS EVIL AT FIRST, BUT IT TURNS OUT THAT--JUST LIKE THE PRINCE--HE WAS ONLY LOOKING FOR A FRIEND.



WE'RE NOT PROFESSIONAL WRITERS, Y'KNOW. I DON'T THINK WE NEED TO WORRY ABOUT MAKING THINGS TOO COMPLICATED.



THAT SOUNDS LIKE A GOOD IDEA... I LIKE IT.



HIMPH.
THEY NEED
TO QUIT
DAWDLING
AND MAKE
THAT CYBORG
COMBAT-
WORTHY...

THE
SOONER
THAT WORK
COMES
OUR WAY,
THE
BETTER.



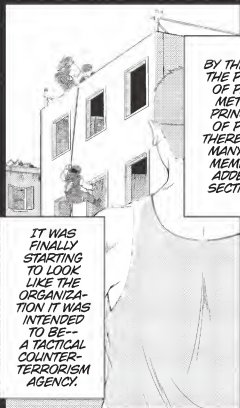
AND WHAT'S
WRONG
WITH THAT?
IT'S NOT LIKE
THERE'S ANY
OTHER
WORK FOR
US TO BE
DOING.

GOD, LOOK
AT THEM...
FORMER
MILITARY
ELITE AND A
RUSSIAN SPY
ALL TOGETHER,
AND WHAT ARE
THEY DOING?
WRITING KIDS'
STORIES.



YOU'D
NEED A
BETTER
BACK-
GROUND TO
GET INTO
THERE, MY
FRIEND.

IF I HAD
KNOWN THIS
IS WHAT I'D
BE DOING
HERE, I
WOULD HAVE
APPLIED FOR
SECTION 1
FIRST.

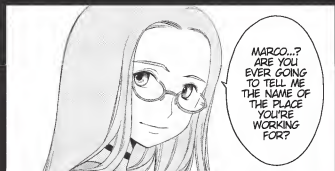
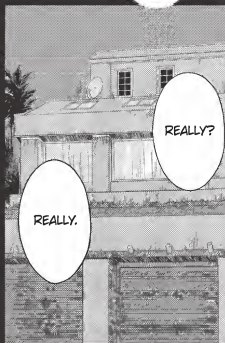
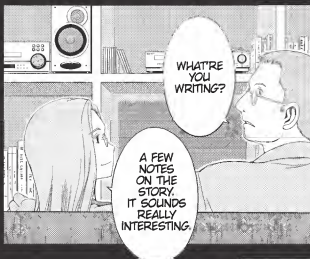
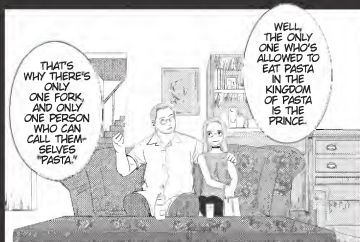


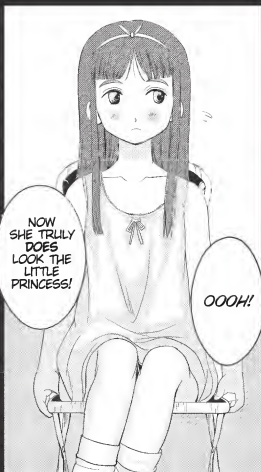
BY THE TIME
THE PRINCE
OF PASTA
MET THE
PRINCESS
OF PIZZA,
THERE WERE
MANY NEW
MEMBERS
ADDED TO
SECTION 2.

IT WAS
FINALLY
STARTING
TO LOOK
LIKE THE
ORGANIZA-
TION IT WAS
INTENDED
TO BE--
A TACTICAL
COUNTER-
TERRORISM
AGENCY.



AS GIORGIO
WISHED,
ANGELICA'S
CYBORG
IMPLANTS
WERE
IMPROVED
AT A
STEADY
PACE.

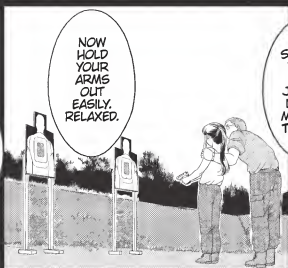






WHOA,
HOLD
IT!

DIDN'T I
TELL YOU
NEVER TO
TOUCH THE
TRIGGER
UNTIL RIGHT
BEFORE
YOU
SHOOT?



NOW
HOLD
YOUR
ARMS
OUT
EASILY,
RELAXED.

SPREAD
YOUR
FEET
JUST A
LITTLE
MORE...
THERE.



YEAH.
IT'S REALLY
HARD FOR
BEGINNERS
TO HIT
ANYTHING
THE FIRST
FEW TIMES,
YOU
KNOW.

ARE YOU
SURE THIS
CLOSE IS
OKAY...?

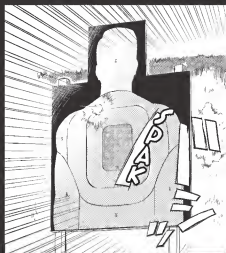
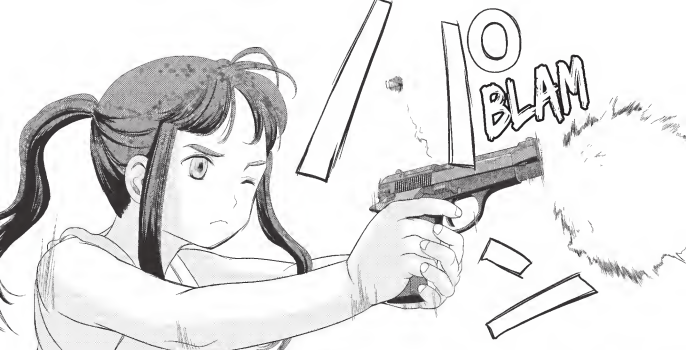
THERE.
NOW TRY
FIRING
A FEW
SHOTS.



EASY.
TRY NOT
TO JUMP
AT THE
BANG OR
THE
RECOIL,
OKAY?

SQUEEZE

.....





SEE, JEAN
DECKED ME
ONCE BUT
GOOD DURING
HAND-TO-
HAND
TRAINING
EARLIER.



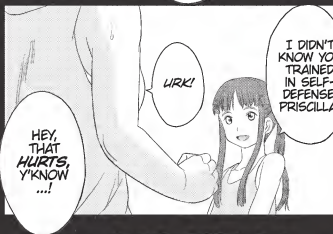
AND
WHAT'S
WITH
THOSE
SHADES?

PRISCILLA?
WHAT'RE
YOU DOING
HERE?
SKIPPING
WORK
AGAIN?



THERE'S
EVEN A
GOOD
REASON
FOR THE
SUN-
GLASSES
...

OH,
COME
ON.
DON'T
YOU
TRUST
ME...?



HEY,
THAT
HURTS,
Y'KNOW
...!

URK!

I DIDN'T
KNOW YOU
TRAINED
IN SELF-
DEFENSE,
PRISCILLA.



BUT IN
AN AGENCY
LIKE THIS,
KNOWING
HOW TO
HANDLE
YOURSELF IN
A FIGHT IS
ALWAYS A
GOOD
IDEA.

BUT
YEAH,
I DO.
MY JOB
MAY BE
ON THE
BRAINIER
SIDE OF
THINGS...



NO
SURPRISE
THERE.
JEAN HATES
PEOPLE WHO
GO AROUND
WITH SMIRKS
ON THEIR
FACES ALL
THE TIME.
LIKE YOU.

AH,
SO YOU
THINK HE
REALLY
DOES
HAVE IT
OUT FOR
ME?



BUT AT THIS RATE, YOU'RE GOING TO BE THE ONE PROTECTING ME!

OF COURSE SHE IS. YOU SUCK AT THIS STUFF, PRISCILLA.



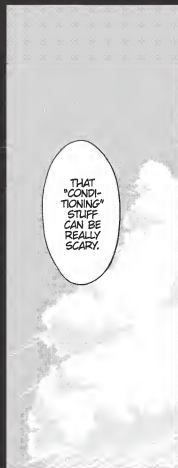
POTENTIAL CAN BE USED TO DO GOOD THINGS. OR BAD THINGS, AS THE CASE MAY BE...

JUST LIKE HOW THE PRINCE OF PASTA PROTECTED THE PRINCESS OF PIZZA.

I WANT TO GET GOOD ENOUGH TO PROTECT YOU SOMEDAY, ANGIE...



YOU SEE, POWER IS POTENTIAL.



THAT "CONDITIONING" STUFF CAN BE REALLY SCARY.

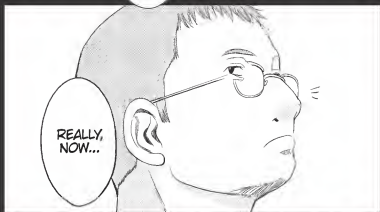


IT'S SOMETHING I HAVE TO DO, SO I'M OKAY WITH IT.

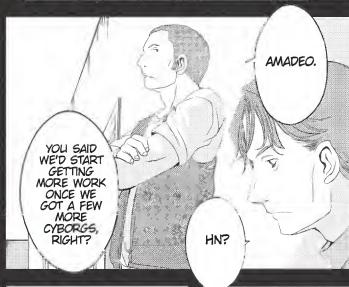
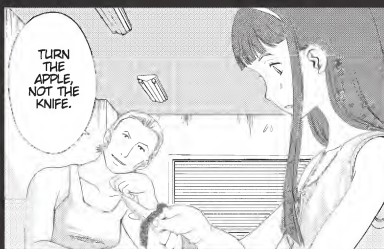


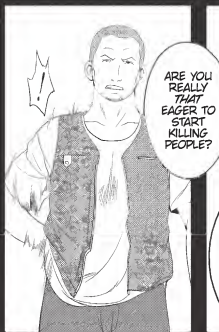
HUSH, YOU. ANYWAY, I HOPE SHOOTING A GUN WASN'T TOO SCARY FOR YOU, ANGIE.

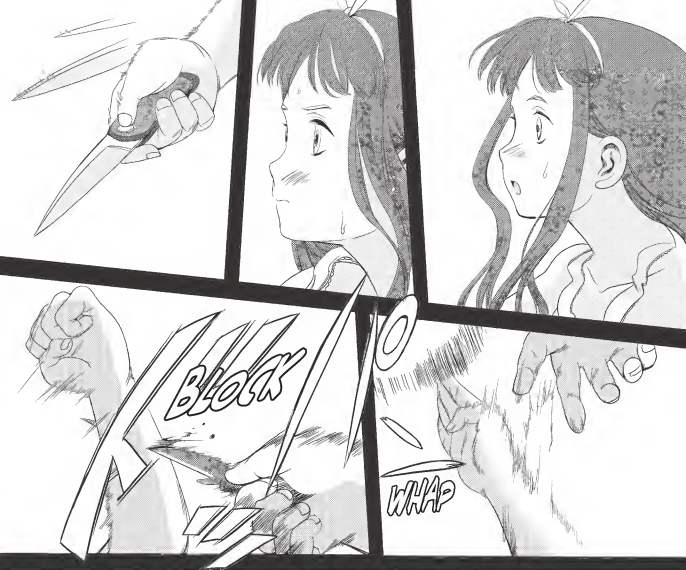
NOPE ...

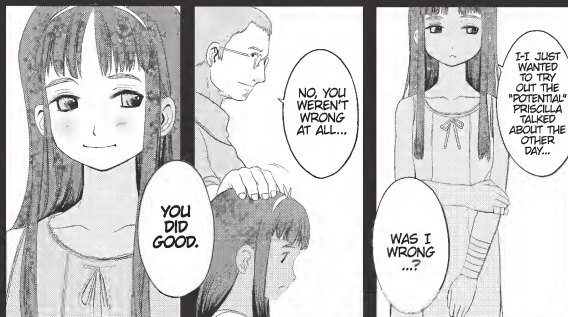
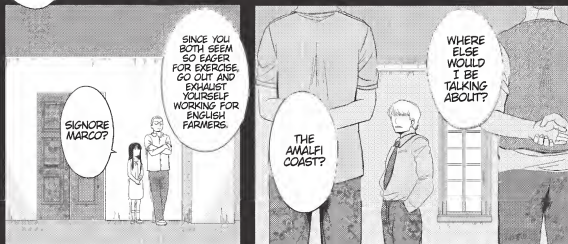


REALLY, NOW...











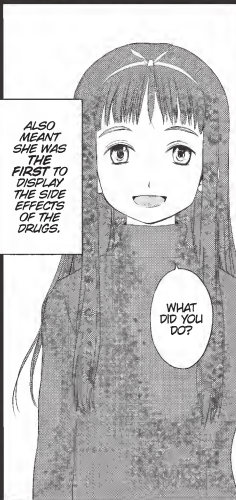
IT WASN'T LONG BEFORE SECTION 2 RECEIVED ITS FIRST REAL MISSION...

AND SHORTLY THEREAFTER, MORE NEW CYBORGS WERE BROUGHT ON.



IRONICALLY...

THAT ONE INCIDENT PIQUED THE AGENCY'S INTEREST IN THE CYBORGS.



ALSO MEANT SHE WAS THE FIRST TO DISPLAY THE SIDE EFFECTS OF THE DRUGS.

WHAT DID YOU DO?



I GET IT. I GET IT.

IT WAS ANGELICA, THE PROTOTYPE, WHO FIRST SHOWED EVERYONE THE POTENTIAL THAT CYBORGS HELD.

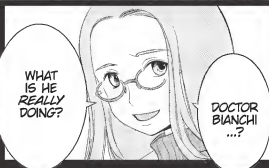
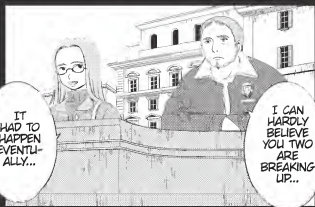
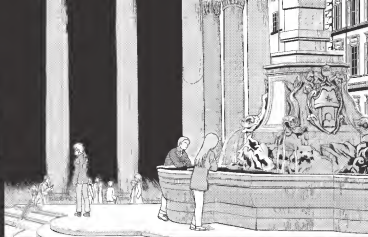
WE MUST BOTH APOLOGIZE TOGETHER, UNDERSTOOD? SINCERELY.

BUT... BEING THE PROTO-TYPE...

SIGNORE AMADEO. SIGNORE GIORGIO...

ANGELICA ...

WE ARE SO SORRY FOR WHAT WE DID...





OH,
YEAH!



WHAT
ABOUT
THAT
STORY?

THE ONE
ABOUT
PRINCE
PASTA
AND
PRINCESS
PIZZA!



SO I
DECIDED
IT WAS
PROBABLY
TIME FOR
US TO
BREAK
UP.

IT
SEEMED TO
BE GETTING
HARDER AND
HARDER
FOR HIM TO
FIND A WAY TO
MAKE
TIME FOR
ME...



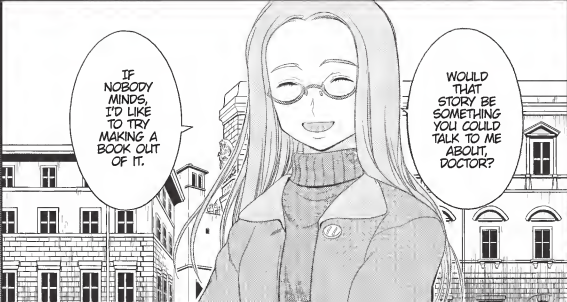
REALLY?
THAT'S
GOOD...

THEN
HE WAS
TELLING
THE TRUTH
ABOUT
TELLING
STORIES TO
A LITTLE
GIRL...



THEY
EVEN
MADE
SIDE
STORIES
FOR IT,
LATER.

OH,
THAT...?
IT FINISHED
WITH
QUITE THE
GRAND
FINALE.



IF
NOBODY
MINDS,
I'D LIKE
TO TRY
MAKING A
BOOK OUT
OF IT.

WOULD
THAT
STORY BE
SOMETHING
YOU COULD
TALK TO ME
ABOUT,
DOCTOR?





GUNSLINGER GIRL vol.2

■ STAFF

TAKAHIRO ENDOU (ASSISTANT)
NOZOMU KOGA (SPECIAL THANKS)

TRANSLATION NOTES

CHAPTER 7

The Piazza di Spagna, or “Spanish Square” in English, is part of the scenic and historical Spanish Steps area of Rome. The Steps connect the Piazza, which is at the bottom of a hill, to the French Trinita dei Monte church at the top of the hill. While there doesn’t seem to be any intrinsic meaning to eating gelato while there, the Piazza’s beautiful architecture does make it one of the more popular places to meet and date in Rome. Likely, those are the lines along which Henrietta was thinking and blushing about.

CHAPTER 9

Military Service – Up until 2004, Italy required all men to serve some time in the military. However, Italian men did retain the right to conscientious objection, the right to choose community service over armed military service. Effective the first day of 2005, the Italian Parliament approved the suspension of mandatory military service.

CHAPTER 10

The Guardia di Finanza is a branch of the Italian Armed Forces that specializes in investigating and preventing financial violations like tax evasion, smuggling and money laundering.

CHAPTER 11

NOCS stands for *Nucleo Operativo Centrale di Sicurezza* (or “Central Security Operations Service,” in English). Established in 1975, NOCS is an elite counter-terrorism assault unit along similar lines as the United States S.W.A.T. teams. Originally only a single 35-man unit, today’s NOCS has three full tactical-assault teams and a fourth protective division.

The Amalfi Coast is a stretch of Italian coastline about half-way between Rome and the toe of Italy’s “boot.” It is known for its beautiful scenery and peaceful, picturesque towns.



***GUNSLINGER GIRL* RELOADED: IT ALL BEGINS HERE!**

The Social Welfare Agency in Italy is not what it seems. Yes, it rescues young girls who have been brutalized—but brainwashes them and transforms them into ruthless killers for an elite and secret counter-terrorism unit for the Italian government.

Enter Henrietta, a young girl who witnessed the savage murder of her family and barely survived. The Agency takes her in and repairs her injuries using the latest in cybernetic technology, wiping her mind of all traces of her past and turning her into one of the Agency's most lethal assassins.

Yet despite her programming, Henrietta is troubled by fragmented memories. It is her handler's job, Jose, to keep her feelings in check and ensure that she stays on mission. This task is made all the more difficult because Henrietta bears an uncanny resemblance to Jose's younger sister who died in a car bombing years earlier.



OLDER TEEN (16+)

WWW.GOMANGA.COM

MANGA



Seven Seas